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Pioneer Lawmakers'

Association of Iowa.

A brief history of the

organization and proceedings

PIONEER LAW-MAKERS

ASSOCIATION OF IOWA.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION, AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE

REUNIONS OF 1886 AND 1890.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE ASSOCIATION, WHICH WAS PERMANENTLY ORGANIZED AT DES MOINES, FEBRUARY 28, 1890.

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ORIGIN OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Hon. Norman Boardman, of Lyons, who was the senator from Clinton county, in the Ninth and Tenth General Assemblies, from 1862 to 1866, first proposed the reunion of members of the early legislatures of Iowa.

On the 26th of September, 1885, he wrote as follows to Ex-Lieut. Governor B. F. Gue, of Des Moines:

"I see by eastern papers that all the living members of the Vermont legislatures are to have a reunion in October, with very interesting exercises. Why cannot we have one in Iowa?"

"In conversation with Gov. John Scott, of Nevada, a few days ago, I found that he was heartily in favor of such a reunion, and I would like to have your opinion on the subject. Will you please confer with such of the old members as you may be able to see, and let me know the result.

NORMAN BOARDMAN."

Upon this suggestion many of the old law-makers were consulted and in January the following call was issued and published in the papers throughout the State:

REUNION OF OLD-TIME LAW-MAKERS.

At the suggestion of many members of the early State legislatures, a call is hereby issued for a reunion of the old-time law-makers of Iowa, to be held at Des Moines on the 24th and 25th days of February, 1886. All surviving members and officers of the Territorial and State legislatures up to and including the Eleventh General Assembly, are to attend and participate in the reunion.

(Signed),

GEO. G. WRIGHT—Member of the Second and Third General Assemblies from Van Buren county.

ISAAC W. GRIFFITH—Member of the Second from Lee county.

P. M. CASADY—Member of the Second and Third from Polk county.

C. G. DIBBLE—Member of the Third from Van Buren county.

P. GAD BRYAN—Member of Fourth and Fifth from Warren county.

J. B. GRINNELL—Member of Sixth and Seventh from Poweshiek county.

- J. W. CATTELL—Member of Sixth, Seventh, Eleventh and Twelfth from Cedar and Polk counties.
- W. G. THOMPSON—Member of Sixth and Seventh from Linn county.
- B. F. GUE—Member of Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh from Scott and Webster counties.
- L. L. AINSWORTH—Member of Eighth and Ninth from Fayette county.
- ED. WRIGHT—Member of Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Eleventh from Cedar county.
- JOHN SCOTT—Member of Eighth and Twelfth from Story county.
- H. B. MITCHELL—Member of Fourth from Jefferson county.
- N. BOARDMAN—Member of Ninth and Tenth from Clinton county.
- JOSEPH DYSART—Member of Ninth and Fifteenth from Benton county.
- C. W. LOWREY—Member of Ninth from Lee county.
- JOHN G. FOOTE—Member of Ninth and Tenth from Des Moines county.
- JOHN RUSSELL—Member Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth from Jones county.
- C. F. CLARKSON—Member of Tenth and Eleventh from Grundy county.
- WM. SANDERSON—Member of Tenth from Scott county.
- L. R. BOLTER—Member of Eleventh, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Nineteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-first from Harrison county.
- R. S. FINKBINE—Member of Tenth and Eleventh from Johnson county.
- HOYT SHERMAN—Member of Eleventh from Polk county.
- CHAS. ALDRICH—Chief Clerk House of Eighth, Ninth, Eleventh and Thirteenth from Hamilton county.

THE FIRST SESSION

of the Reunion opened at Foster's Opera House in Des Moines, at 10:30 A. M., February 24, 1886.

The meeting was called to order by Governor Gue, who read the call and announced that the exercises would be opened with prayer by Rev. I. P. Teter, Presiding Elder for the Ottumwa district. The following list of temporary officers was then read:

President—Reuben Noble, of the Fifth General Assembly.

Vice-Presidents—Hawkins Taylor, First Territorial Legislature; Isaac N. Lewis, Third Territorial Legislature; Alfred Hebard, Third Territorial Legislature; J. H. Bonney, Sixth Territorial Legislature; William Thompson, Sixth Territorial Legislature; Phil. P. Bradley, Seventh Territorial Legislature; Samuel Murdock, Eighth Territorial Legislature.

Secretaries—Hon. Chas. Aldrich, Clerk of Eighth, Ninth, Eleventh and Thirteenth, and member of the Nineteenth, B. Van Steenberg, C. S. Wilson, Judge F. S. Richman, and J. W. Dixon.

Sergeant-at-Arms—E. R. Clapp.

JUDGE NOBLE,

the Temporary President and Speaker of the Fifth and Sixth General Assemblies, was introduced, and spoke briefly, thanking them for the honor conferred upon him:

I do not know whose intellect evolved this meeting, but whoever it was I heartily thank them. It has been our custom to celebrate or commemorate all great events. It is not possible for a man or a state to lose the effects of a good beginning, nor is it easy to rid themselves of a bad beginning. We might retrospect, whether we made a good beginning. It was during this period that our proud common school system was established. During this period that railroad grant was made which has contributed so largely to the material prosperity of Iowa. It was at this period that the Capital was moved to Des Moines. It was during this period that the University was established, which now occupies so proud a place at the head of the grandest school system in the world. It was during this period that the foundations of our present prosperity were laid broad and deep, and during all that time no one member was ever tainted with jobbery and fraud. We have seen our State develop from a child into a powerful giant, and we hope to see that good beginning ripen into a better ending. Gentlemen of the reunion, I await your pleasure.

The choir, consisting of Mrs. Cheek and Mrs. Robinson and Messrs. Stevenson and Brown, sang Auld Lang Syne, with great effect. The roll was then called, preparatory to appointing a committee on permanent organization. Each of the veterans as he arose and gave his county in response to his name, was greeted with rounds of applause, and the recollections and reunions thus brought about were most pleasing to all concerned.

THE ROLL.

The following named members answered to the call of their names:

Isaac Milburn, Linn county, house, 1862.

R. P. Wilson, Lee, house, 1850.

L. L. Ainsworth, Fayette, senate, 1860-1862.

W. H. M. Pusey, Pottawattamie, senate, 1858-61.

Thomas Mitchell, Polk, house, 1858.

Ed. Wright, Cedar, 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th.

J. L. Mitchell, Fremont, house, 1862.

- A. V. Larimer, Pottawattamie, house, 1856.
 J. D. Edmundson, Mahaska, house, 1860.
 H. Bracewell, Wayne, house, 8th and 9th.
 P. Gad Bryan, house, 4th and 5th.
 P. M. Casady, Polk, senate, 1848-1851.
 G. W. Ruddick, Bremer, house, 1860.
 W. W. Wilson, Pottawattamie, house, 9th.
 Alfred Hebard, Des Moines, house, 1840.
 D. G. Frisbie, Mitchell, house, 1860.
 J. C. Jordan, Polk, senate, 1854-1856.
 John Scott, Story, senate, 1860.
 John F. Morton, Henry, senate, 1854; house, 1856.
 C. G. Dibble, Van Buren, house, 1850.
 A. C. Fulton, Scott, senate, 1855.
 S. A. Moore, Davis, senate, 1864-1866.
 J. B. Young, Linn, senate, 1864-1866
 J. F. Duncombe, Webster, senate, 8th and 9th; house, 14th and 18th.
 Addison Oliver, Northwest Iowa, senate, 11th and 12th.
 J. B. Grinnell, Poweshiek, senate, 6th and 7th.
 W. J. Moir, Hardin, house, 1862-64.
 Nicholas Baylies, Polk, house, 1864.
 N. L. Van Sandt, Page, house, 1854.
 A. R. Fulton, Jefferson, clerk in house, 1854-1856.
 F. A. Sherman, Dallas, chaplain, 1854.
 Hoyt Sherman, Polk, house, 1866.
 Hawkins Taylor, Lee county, house, 1838.
 Geo. F. Green, Jackson county, council, 1846-52. Miles, Jackson county,
 Iowa.
 Sylvester G. Maison, Jackson and Jones, house, 1846-7-8.
 Phil. B. Bradley, Jackson county, council, 1844-5; house, 1846-48-50.
 Andrew, Jackson county, Iowa.
 Wm. Thompson, Henry county, house, 1843-1860. Bismarck, Dakota.
 J. H. Bonney, Van Buren county, house, 1845. Keosauqua.
 Andrew Pherrin, Van Buren county, house, 1848-52.
 Isaac N. Lewis, house, Van Buren county, 1840. Kohoka, Mo.
 Reuben Noble, house, Clayton county, 1844-56. McGregor, Iowa.
 Samuel Boyles, house, Lee county, 1854-5. Chicago.
 A. K. Eaton, house, Delaware county, 1850-1-2-3. Osage, Mitchell county.
 W. S. Hall, Dubuque, house, 1854-5-6. Onslow, Jones county.
 Isaac W. Griffith, house, Lee county, 1848-49. Des Moines.
 Justus Clark, Des Moines county, house 1852-58-60-61. Red Oak.
 Ben Van Steenburg, Jackson county, clerk of the house 1866. Preston,
 Iowa.
 T. S. Parvin, Muscatine, council, 1840, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
 H. T. Cleaver, Louisa and Washington, senate, 1854-6-7; Keokuk, Iowa.
 Wm. J. Rogers, Jefferson county, house, 1852; Beloit, Kansas.
 H. B. Hendershott, Wapello, senate, 1850-54; Ottumwa, Iowa.
 S. P. Yeomans, Lucas county, house, 1854-5; Charles City, Floyd county.
 D. N. Sprague, Des Moines and Louisa, house, 1858; Keokuk.
 Lyman Cook, Des Moines, senate, 1856-8; Burlington.

J. L. Dunn, Story, etc., house, 1858; Nevada, Iowa.
 John E. Kurtz, Linn, house 1856; Lisbon, Iowa.
 H. H. Trimble, Davis, senate, 1856-58; Keokuk.
 John G. Foote, Des Moines, senate, 1862-64; Burlington.
 A. H. McCrary, Van Buren, senate, 1848-50, 1854-56; Keosauqua.
 G. Eichhorn, Lee county, house, 1862; Fairfield;
 W. H. Seevers, Mahaska, house, 1858; Oskaloosa.
 B. F. Gue, Scott, senate, 1862-64; house, 1858-60.
 Chas. Aldrich, Hamilton county, house, 1860-62, 1866-70; Webster City.
 John Russell, Jones county, senate, 1880-82; house, 1862-64-66-68-70;
 Onslow, Jones county.
 Norman Boardman, Clinton county, senate, 1862-64; Lyons.
 C. W. Lowrie, Lee county, house, 1862; Des Moines.
 R. D. Kellogg, Decatur county, house, 1860-62.
 Chas. Weare, Linn county, house, 1864; Cedar Rapids.
 G. C. Shipman, Muscatine county, house, 1860-62; West Liberty.
 R. S. Finkbine, Johnson county, house 1864-66; Des Moines.
 F. Wilcox, Des Moines county, house, 1862; Burlington.
 Thos. C. McCall, Story county, 1862; Nevada.
 J. W. Logan, Webster, clerk of senate, 1856; house, 1862; Waterloo.
 Warren S. Dungan, Lucas and Monroe, senate, 1862; Chariton.
 Lewis W. Ross, Pottawattamie, senate, 1864-66; Iowa City.
 A. M. Browne, Madison county, house, 1855-56; St. Charles.
 Jos. R. Reed, Dallas, senate, 1860; Council Bluffs.
 S. J. Crawford, Crawford county, house, 1866; Dow City, Iowa.
 W. C. Willson, Hamilton county, house, 1856; Webster City.
 S. B. Rossenkrans, Hamilton, 1860-61; Webster City.
 L. D. Tracy, Grundy and Butler, house, 1862; Iowa Falls.
 J. J. McMaken, Des Moines county, house, 1864; Middletown, Iowa.
 B. S. Merriam, Lee county, house, 1864; Keokuk.
 J. L. McCormack, Marion, house, 1864; Knoxville,
 C. F. Clarkson, Grundy, senate 1864-66; Des Moines.
 R. M. Burnett, Muscatine, house, 1866; Muscatine, Iowa.
 M. J. Rohlf, Scott, house, 1866-68-70-72; Davenport.

After the transaction of some minor business the convention then adjourned to meet in the Capitol at 3 P. M.

IN THE SENATE.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Promptly at the time appointed the Law-makers convened in the Custodian's room of the Capitol, and proceeded in a body to their various chambers.

The President appointed Scott, Casey and Woolson as a committee to wait upon the old Senators and invite them to the Senate Chamber. They retired, and were soon announced by Scott, who introduced them to the Senate as the ex-members of the Eleventh and proceeding General Assemblies, headed by the oldest Lieutenant Governor, the Hon. B. F. Gue.

President Hull extended to them the privilege of the floor as follows:

Senators: I know that I only express the wish of all the members of the present Senate when I extend to you the privileges of the floor of this chamber, and if we can return to our homes with the feeling that we have performed our duty as well as you did yours in the years of your service, we will have the satisfaction of feeling we have done our duty, and I take great pleasure in inviting Gov. Gue to a seat on the platform.

The Senate then took a recess of fifteen minutes, which time was spent in a general hand-shaking and meeting of visiting guests.

Captain Griffith then announced the ex-representatives saying:

MR. PRESIDENT—I have the pleasure of introducing to you, and through you to the Senate, the Ex-Representatives of the former Assemblies.

President Hull then welcomed the visiting members, and after the motion to adjourn had been carried, he passed the gavel to ex-Speaker Noble, of Clayton county, the oldest surviving resident Speaker of the House. On taking the chair Mr. Noble said:

It is a long time since we have met. I believe that your present Speaker is the oldest resident Speaker living. Judge Grant is still living but a resident of California. What is the pleasure of the members of the legislative reunion?

Judge Murdock was called for. He said he had made half of a speech in the other house. (It was suggested that he make the other half here now.) He took the platform and paid a tribute to Iowa's first Governor.

No one knew the business of the State better than he. He was a Democrat of the old Jackson type. In the year 1840 this country saw the greatest political upheaval ever witnessed in any country in the world.

Judge Murdock gave the history of the organization of the State, adopting the Constitution, and the long fight between Democrats and Whigs. He said:

The Democrats stood up to the rack, corn or no corn, it having been claimed that they would lose all the offices. We had no expenses. The government paid everything. In 1844 the boundaries of the State were agreed

upon, but were changed by Congress, making the State an oblong square. This enraged the people of Iowa, and they voted it down. The State of Iowa has made wonderful progress in the few years she has been a State. School houses have been established everywhere. Railroads have been built reaching into every part of the State. Iowa shows prosperity and industry unparalleled in any State in the country. If those who come after you look to the needs of the State as well as you who have come after us, a few years will show a wonderful State. Providence has been kind to me. It has left me a young looking man. In the next half century I may come down here and make you another speech. I am here as the representative of the last territorial legislature and the only one of the House. There is a member here of the First, and I would be pleased to hear him. [Applause.]

R. M. Burnett, of Muscatine county, of the Eleventh General Assembly, was called for, and was conducted to the platform by Gov. Hull. He responded in an eloquent and pathetic manner, which brought tears to many of the eyes of the pioneer legislators and of the audience. He came to the State in 1852, and was not one of the pioneer members, but came now to join his voice with the fathers of this grand State. He at one time held the position of Postmaster in New York, and his death warrant was signed, and he was laid beneath the political ax. He took Horace Greeley's advice, and came West to this grand State. He continued:

We stand in a capitol that is inferior to the Empire State, but every stone is paid for, and paid for with honest money. If it does not show the grandeur of the capitol of New York it has been honestly paid for and no barter nor sale entered into it. When I landed in this State the population was less than 200,000. I came by canal and then staged it in getting into this State. Des Moines was simply a dot on the map, as Fort Des Moines on the Des Moines river near the Skunk, I mean the Coon, I get the animals mixed. [Laughter.]

When we look at our institutions of charity throughout the State we see a progress rarely witnessed in the world. All are reached by railroads. How the State has grown in the time I have been here, and we meet here and congratulate ourselves that we have done so well. I was one of those who did not go to [the war, but it is possible for a man to be a veteran of the civil service. It has been my pleasure to shake hands with many of my associates, but not to look into their faces. I hope that all my old comrades will hunt me up; I desire to grasp them by the hand. (Great applause.)

Gen. Wm. Thompson, now of Dakota, but formerly an ex-Congressman from Iowa and a member of the Territorial Legislature, was called on. He was present at the laying of the corner stone of the Washington monument and was present when the cap stone was put on. He said to be called on at this time he considered to be one of the highest honors ever paid him. Forty-seven years ago he came here for the purpose of making Iowa his home,

and to aid in the development of the State. In coming to Des Moines, which he rarely did, he was stricken with a strange feeling of the coming State which he had adopted for his future home. Des Moines is now a beautiful and fine city. It was not quite thirty-nine years ago that he had the pleasure of first seeing the site of the city. In the Southern District after the State was districted he was made a candidate for Congress. He found in the whole city of Des Moines at that time eight men and one woman. He made them a speech—a speech as a candidate for Congress, and found them an attentive audience. To-day he said he had the honor of addressing the wisest men of the State. What prosperity the people have made in that time. In 1840 he was permitted to take the census of Iowa, including Minnesota, and the world beyond. In that whole country there were 42,000 souls. Now the population of the State alone is nearly 2,000,000. He hoped the Legislature would go forward. Their responsibility is greater than in years gone by. The population is greater and the institutions of the State need a more watchful care.

Mr. Kellogg, of Decatur county, was called for. He said that this was a sort of a class meeting, and he would confess that the most foolish thing he ever did was to write a speech of forty minutes in length, but the wisest thing he ever did was not to deliver it. In looking down the valley of time, away in the distance he could remember a little brick building which stands at the south of this building, the one in which we used to meet at the breaking out of the war. The resolution was adopted then denouncing treason and giving the President the power to call on the State for troops and money. It was a grand document, and would only fill one column in the newspapers. He could see the white mounds in marking the resting places of members of that General Assembly, the wheel-horses of the State. While we are here congratulating ourselves, let us not forget the noble dead. Peace be to their ashes.

He paid a compliment to the buildings of the State and their good keeping. The honesty and integrity of such men as Finkbine will live always.

IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Benson informed the House that the old members of the legislature were in the rotunda of the capitol waiting, and moved that a committee of three be appointed to invite them to the House.

Motion prevailed, and the Speaker appointed as such committee Messrs. Benson, Baldwin and Robb.

The Speaker announced that the reception of the old members would be informal to the floor of the House, and that the members would stand while they entered the House.

The committee returned with the old members and they were introduced in a body by Mr. Benson.

The Speaker welcomed the gentlemen to the floor of the House.

Mr. Benson introduced Mr. Hawkins Taylor as the only surviving member of the first Territorial Legislature (1838) of Iowa, and moved that he be invited to take a seat by the Speaker.

The motion was carried unanimously, and Mr. Benson conducted Mr. Taylor to the Speaker's side amid the clapping of hands.

Mr. Finn moved that the business of the House be suspended for one hour, that the old members might talk.

Mr. Keatley moved that ex-Speaker Noble address the House.

Mr. Noble from the Speaker's desk said:

I hardly know what to say. Times have changed since the old members held a place in the House. When we commenced there was but little of the State of Iowa except a few river counties. When the Fifth General Assembly met there was but one railroad in Iowa from Davenport to Iowa City. At that time Congress made a magnificent grant of land to the State, and that Legislature had to dispose of it. In all this not one member of that body was suspected of jobbing. [Applause.] But few except river counties were populated. The city of Des Moines was but small and far from railroads. During this period the grand and magnificent system of common schools had its beginning and which is now dispelling illiteracy. Since that period the State has passed through two wars. Its good beginning of those days has never been lost sight of, and could not be. I am reminded of the matter of Judge Wright in the famous toast: "Iowa, her affections, like the rivers of her borders, flows to an inseparable union." I cannot close without mention of the Executive Department of Iowa during the war. I cannot forget it. I am sorry that the Old War Governor cannot be with us to-day. I have spent forty-three years in Iowa, and do not know when to stop talking of the State. You now have a magnificent capitol. But I do not want to be tedious.

Mr. Berryhill moved that the courtesy of a hearing be extended to Hon. Hawkins Taylor. Mr. Taylor rose and said it was unfair to call him up after the able orator, Mr. Noble.

It was a long time ago when I was in the Legislature. Not many of you were born then; it was forty-eight years ago. We then had nothing, no House, no library; we passed about six hundred pages of law at that session, which has been built upon, and many of the early laws are now gone. We did not believe then that this part of the State would be occupied while we

lived except by wolves and gophers. That was a brainy Legislature, and I think was equal to the average, yet we had a quarrel with the Governor because we elected officers and employes of the Legislature and paid them \$3.00 per day, the same as we received, and he thought it was entirely too much. We learned to eat with knives and forks, and were honest, because there was no object to be dishonest. I have never seen a House presided over with greater dignity, either here or in Washington, than was that Legislature, and I think we are entitled to credit for laying a good foundation.

Mr. Holbrook said we have with us the Hon. Samuel Burdick, a member of the last two Territorial Legislatures, and moved that he be invited to address the House.

Mr. Burdick took the Speaker's stand and said he was the only survivor of those two Legislatures, but he did not want the audience to understand that he was an old, superannuated man, but was a young and handsome man yet. [Laughter.] You will all remember that prior to 1840 the territory was organized. In 1840 everything was changed and the country saw a great political change. Gen. Harrison was elected President and Gov. Lucas was removed, but he appointed another good man.

The Sergeants-at-Arms announced the arrival of the veteran Senators, and the House arose to receive them.

Mr. Burdick then arose to say that sometime during the next half century he would make the balance of his speech.

The veteran members of the House retired to the Senate chamber.

Mr. Benson moved that the House take a recess of half an hour to hear from the veteran Senators. Motion carried.

Mr. Thompson, of Linn, asked that Hon. J. B. Grinnell be heard.

Mr. Grinnell took a position on the Speaker's stand and addressed the House. He said this was one of the best Legislatures ever assembled in Iowa. He believed in progress, and could say it on this principle. He had never went into a house but what he always said that the youngest child in the family was the best looking. He did not believe that all the good die young; he saw many of the good here. We have a grand record; we are far ahead of other States in our schools, in the money we expend, and in many things. We are glad to be here and we are glad that you do not forget the old men of that day. I hope members will be sent up who are veterans, men of minds, and that such will be sent until they die.

Mr. Martin took the speaker's stand. He was a member of the legislature in 1846, and was nominated for temporary Speaker of the House, and claimed to be the first speaker of the Iowa House of Representatives.

Mr. Ramsey said we had an old member here, Rev. I. P. Teter, and would like to hear from him.

Mr. Teter said he was a member of the Ninth General Assembly and had been a citizen of the State for thirty years; have seen the population, the schools and the colleges increase, and was proud of the State. He was a member when they received a telegram of the fall of Ft. Donelson.

Mr. Redman said we had with us Hon. Geo. G. Wright, and would like to hear from him.

Mr. Wright took the stand. He said:

I was a member of the Senate in 1850 and 1852, when it was located in that wicked city of Iowa City where Governor Kirkwood lived, and where we are informed they fail to enforce the prohibitory law. [Laughter.] If Governor Kirkwood was not the best governor we had he was at least the best looking. [Laughter.] Then we got but \$2.50 per day, and had a better legislature than when Mr. Grinnell was a member. [Laughter.] In 1851 was the time we passed the first Code of Iowa, and whoever examines that code will find the innovations on common law. It was about that time we were called upon to contribute a block to the Washington monument, and on that block was inscribed, "Iowa, her affections like the rivers of her borders, flow to an inseparable Union." Years have rolled on; thousands have given up their lives, but I thank God that the truth of that motto still lives. When the question came: "How many men can Iowa furnish to wipe out the Sumter insult?" the cry came up, "83,000, and twice that number if necessary." In no Assembly since 1838, though hundreds have come to homes in Iowa, no man has been found in Iowa or out of it who has charged corruption to any member of the legislature. I thank you for your attention.

Mr. Weaver said the House would be glad to hear from ex-Governor Gue.

Mr. Gue took the stand but declined to make a speech. He would prefer to hear ex-Senator Ainsworth.

Mr. Ainsworth arose in his seat. He said he never had an opportunity to get near the speaker's stand—his politics always precluding it [laughter]. I was a boy when I was elected, and was advised not to talk myself to death.

Mr. Finn moved that ex-Senator Pusey be heard.

Mr. Pusey arose in his seat and said:

I trust that the great foundation of the State was properly laid in the years mentioned. My friend, Grinnell, always had some specialty. His

great object in the legislature was to put an enormous tax on dogs [laughter], and in favor of sheep. I must say that there has been a great change of heart in our district—we are now down on dogs and in favor of sheep. I was once on the Banking Committee, and some member wanted to instruct that committee; did not know who he was, but “went for him,” and afterwards learned that it was old Sam Kirkwood. I found it a good thing to hunt bear, except when the bear turned on me. [Laughter.] But I believe the discussion did old Sam some good. I want to say before closing that the best governed people are the least governed.

Mr. Walker said that Hon. S. A. Moore was among our distinguished visitors and moved that he be heard. Mr. Moore took a position in front of the clerk’s desk and made a few remarks, but the reporter could not catch his words.

Mr. Ball said we had a Secretary of the Senate of the Third Territorial Legislature, Prof. T. S. Parvin, of Iowa City.

Mr. Parvin said:

It has been forty-eight years since I have addressed the General Assembly. But my memory carries me back to that date when the General Assembly met in a church. Nearly all of that assembly had crossed the great river. Gen. Warner Lewis and Hon. Hawkins Taylor are here. Besides these two there are three others still living. I once knew all the members of all the Territorial Legislatures of Iowa, and thank God to-night that I am permitted to stand before this assembly.

Before leaving, Hon. J. B. Grinnell wished to hear from Major W. G. Thompson, of Linn, who was a member of this House, and one of the young members of the old legislatures.

Mr. Thompson said that he had met men in those days who had since written their names in the history of Iowa, and his memory flowed back to those happy days and he was proud of it. He was but a young member then, and was glad to see and welcome the old heads who were with us to-day.

The clerk read the following resolution:

Resolved, By the House of Representatives of the State of Iowa: In appreciation of the honor conferred on us by a visit from the venerable Senators and Representatives of this State, and fully recognizing the eminent services they have in time long past rendered our beloved State in the wise and efficient laws they enacted, through which the rights of all citizens are guarded, both in person and property, and the resources of our State developed, we hereby tender them our sincere thanks for the honor.

Adopted unanimously.

FEBRUARY 25TH—MORNING SESSION.

The second session of the Old Iowa Law Makers this morning was much more largely attended, and the proceedings were followed with the closest interest throughout. Permanent officers were reported by the Committee and approved by the Reunion Assembly as follows: President, John F. Duncombe; Vice-Presidents, Hawkins Taylor, E. N. Lewis, Alfred Hebard, P. B. Bradley, Samuel Murdock, G. F. Green, George G. Wright, J. T. Morton, A. K. Eaton, H. B. Hendershott, A. H. McCrary, J. B. Grinnell, W. H. M. Pusey, Norman Boardman, J. G. Foote, T. S. Wilson; Secretaries, Charles Aldrich, Ben. Van Steenburg, C. S. Wilson, J. Scott Richman, C. C. Nourse, Jacob Rich, H. G. Curtis; Sergeant-at-arms, Isaac W. Griffith.

On taking the chair, Mr. Duncombe gave the following eloquent opening address:

Ladies and Gentlemen—I only regret on this very interesting occasion, that the representatives of the First Territorial Legislature of Iowa, Hon. Hawkins Taylor, or the last United States officer surviving who held an office in territorial times in Iowa, Hon. Thomas S. Wilson, or the gentleman, who I believe has served in more General Assemblies in Iowa than any other man, Hon. John Russell, or some other older senator than myself had been selected by the Committee on Permanent Organization to preside over the Law-Maker's Reunion. I cannot, however, but feel that, selected as I have been by a committee composed of a member from each General Assembly of the territory and State of Iowa, is a compliment wholly undeserved, and one that I had no right to expect, and for the honor I am sincerely grateful.

Give me your kind indulgence, and by your aid I will do the best I can to perform the duties imposed on me. The originators of this interesting reunion deserve the gratitude of all the living law-makers of Iowa who have served the Territory and State between 1836 and 1866. They have given those who are present, at least, an occasion of genuine enjoyment that could not have been brought about in any other way. They have revived old memories, some of which have been buried and forgotten for half a century—others for a quarter of a century, and none for less than twenty years. They have joined anew with warm, clasping hands, friends who have not met since in the old halls of legislation they last said that sad word—farewell. They have recalled the struggles and battles, where in the hot blood of youth, aroused by laudable ambition, all fought for fame and the good of the country. They have brought vividly to mind the time and scenes when the welfare of the whole nation, as we supposed, depended upon the success or failure of some trivial amendment to a bill or the passage or defeat of

some bill. They have stirred anew the blood that has been thick and sluggish for years, and have made us all young again. From the solemn thoughts that sometimes cloud the evening of life, when old age makes men chilled and shriveled, they have sent out bright and beautiful rays of golden sunlight to cheer and fill our souls with joy only known to those who can love each other and love mankind. To you who have given us this rich feast of sweet memories, one and all we give greeting, and join in our heartfelt desire that the pleasures you have given us may brighten as a lamp from the skies your closing pathway.

This occasion will be one by us ever to be remembered as one of the choicest jewels of the best recollections of our lives. There is only one thing, my friends, that has troubled me since the programme of these exercises was finished, selecting me as their President; that is, that I am expected to deliver an address, and that, too, when I have no idea of what ought to be said. As I am familiar with the General Assemblies from 1860 to 1864, and as others are to speak of times more familiar to them, I shall refer to some matters in the Legislature of those four years. When, on the 8th of January, 1860, I was sworn in as a Senator, representing or misrepresenting the entire northwest quarter of the State of Iowa, I met there the elegant and able lawyer, John W. Rankin—long since passed over the dark river; and eloquent and brave Cyrus Bussey, a general of the late war; the bold, rough, big-hearted Harvey W. English, a soldier of the Mexican war; the polished, handsome, scholarly Wm. F. Coolbaugh, whose sad death we all remember so well; the shrewd calculator, Alvin Saunders, late United States Senator from Nebraska; the able United States Senator, James F. Wilson, who now represents our State in Congress; the brilliant wit, A. O. Patterson, who we all hoped would be here and speak for himself; the analytic, sterling ex-Congressman, L. L. Ainsworth, whose sharp sarcasms always caused the procession to move on where the way was blocked; the sound and cautious ex-Congressman Pusey, whose advice was always taken; the dashing Tom Drummond, peace to his ashes; the wide-awake Colonel John Scott, who now again honors the Senate with his presence; and there was honest Dan Anderson and Jarius E. Neal, and Udell and Bailey, and Taylor and Thompson and Davis and Angle and Judge Wilson of Dubuque, and Trumbull and Hammer and Henderson and McPherson and Brown and Grey and Powers, and many more whose names I cannot now mention, but whose memories I shall ever cherish; and over all presided the good-hearted German, Nicholas J. Rusch, whose voice from across the river I still in memory hear calling, the "Chintleman fram Vebster," has the floor, in that pleasant, good-natured manner, as I heard it twenty-six years ago; and then there was "Lin Kinsale," the newspaper correspondent, who from time to time, with his sharp pen tormented and flayed Democratic Senators and made giants of small men on the other side.

At the next session there was McCrary, since Secretary of War, United States Circuit Judge, and now attorney of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company; and there was our own Gue and the polished Jennings and many that I have not now time to mention; but among them all I shall never forget the noble, brave man, Col. James Redfield, whose life's blood poured out on the altar of his country—than whom Julius Cæsar was never braver. I shall never forget how, when the lightning flashed over the wire

from Donaldson, the word "victory," how when the House and Senate gave out one shout of triumph, he was almost overwhelmed with enthusiasm. In the House I will only mention one man. Among the noble men there was Gen. Nathaniel B. Baker. At that time he had the most remarkable executive ability I ever saw. His quickness, his courage, his readiness, his wit, his sarcasm—his powers of argument were all in full activity, and he was an exceedingly dangerous foe on any field. His great big heart has long since ceased to beat, but Iowa can never forget its debt to Gen. Baker, and his memory should never fade away. When the roll of these assemblies is now called there is no response for Redfield, Robb, Rankin, Coolbaugh, Thompson, Judge Wilson, McPherson, Drummond and many others who answered the roll call at the sessions of the Eighth and Ninth General Assemblies and the two special sessions between 1860 and 1864. They have gone—conquerors in the battle of life. Their names are not forgotten. Their acts aided very much to mould our laws and institutions, and bring beautiful Iowa into the proud position in the great sisterhood of States which she now holds.

Then the great question of railway construction, of land grants, of education, of hospitals for the unfortunate, of penitentiaries for the depraved, vicious and cruel, were constantly discussed. The work of these men may not have been the best that could have been done, but it was work not to be despised—work that stood the test of time—work that produced results not to be sneered at—work of which the descendants of those who have fallen and those who still survive need not be ashamed. At the session of 1860 we listened to the last message of Governor Ralph P. Lowe, and to the inaugural of that honest old Roman, Samuel J. Kirkwood, who in his bold, sanguine heart declared that in his opinion those who loved the constitution and the Union had not any great cause for alarm; who then told us—as the sullen, black angry clouds of fraternal war were gathering and then threatened us that passion would subside, and reason resume its sway, and that then our Southern brethren would discover that they had been deceived and misled, as to our feelings and purposes, and that the good old ways wherein we had walked, are ways of pleasantness, and that the good old paths our fathers taught us to tread are paths of peace. But when the war was inevitable we saw that same peace-loving man, straining every nerve to save the Union and the country. And since that day, many of us have learned that no one man, no one society, no one church, no one party, contains all the patriotism of this glorious land of America. It was on that occasion that he closed his address with the memorable words of the true, stern old patriot of the hermitage, "The Union; it must and shall be preserved," and that determined voice still lingers in my ear as memory shakes up the dusty pages of the book of recollection back of the last quarter of a century. At that time we were hearing about legislation about the Des Moines river land grant, as Congress now is, at every session. We listened to an address at the session of 1860 from Dr. Tottem, then President of the State University, in the hall of the House of Representatives. He tried to stir up our enthusiasm by telling us about Watt and Whitney and Arkwright and Galvani and Morse and Daguerre; he told us about the great schools of Eaton, Rugby and Harrow in England and the Gymnasia in Germany and the colleges and universities

of the world. He told us that we were laying the foundations of a great State which would count its population by millions. That interest and State pride, and patriotism and philanthropy all united in urging us on, and that on us devolved the duty of laying the foundation of that great institution of our great State, the University, and he warned us to lay these foundations deep enough to stand unshaken through all ages. We had three commissioners appointed to examine the books, papers, vouchers, moneys securities and other documents in the hands of each and every executive officer of the State, and they made their reports. We had, that session, a special message from the governor, explaining why he refused to surrender Barclay Coppoc, one of John Brown's men who was accused of treason in the State of Virginia. We had our investigating committees, who took evidence, reported, whitewashed, applauded and as usual cleared the subjects of investigation. As the Republicans had only four majority in the session of 1860 Democrats were about as saucy as now and Republicans no less proud. But so far as I have ever heard there were no deep, ugly wounds on either side, and when in the last session we met to say good-bye, there were many wet eyes and cheeks and much silent hand-shaking that had a far stronger expression than words could utter. We were here met by the same kind of people that have always honored a new western city, and who have to this day made Des Moines a synonym for hospitality.

But the limit of time to me has nearly closed, and as I have said nothing about the ladies, I must not forget that those of 1860-1866, were true representatives of those noble women who have done so much more than we have done to make Iowa what she now is.

And here's a health to the women of Des Moines and Iowa now and forever.

"Her every tone is music's own.
Like those of morning birds,
And something more than melody
Dwells ever in her words;
The coinage of her heart are they,
And from her lips each flows,
As one may see the burdened bee
Forth issue from the rose.

To the old veterans of 1836 to 1866—law-makers of the past, let me say:

"It's guid to be merry and wise,
It's guid to be honest and true,
It's guid to support America's cause
And bide by the 'red white' and blue."

To some of us before another reunion, most likely there will be an invitation to cross over the river. The muffled drum will beat in the solemn procession that will be formed to carry some of us to our final rest. To all—I know of no words more fitting than those of our brightest poet. He says:

"So live that when thy summons comes.
To join the innumerable caravan which moves on
To that mysterious realm, when each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
Thou go not, like the quarry slave at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

The calling of the roll was then ordered after which

HON. JOHN T. MORTON

was called upon and responded somewhat as follows:

"I have not prepared any address for this occasion, as we become older we find less time for preparation of any address. In time long back, when we were all young, we carried to school a book, which contained a map, on that map was indicated a piece of land, called the 'American Desert.' From that desert the great State of Iowa has sprung, with a property valuation of about \$550,000,000."

HON. CHARLES ALDRICH

followed with one of the most thoughtful addresses of the day, and which was given a cordial reception. He said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LAW-MAKERS' RE-UNION: First and last I have had the honor to be connected with the Iowa House of Representatives ten years—eight as Chief Clerk, and two as member. Then, I have been at the Capital at some time during each session, beginning with 1858, and therefore to some extent familiar with each of these several bodies. But it has always seemed to me—very possibly because I was young and enthusiastic at the time, and my own service began with it—that the House of 1860 was in all respects the ablest and most remarkable deliberative body that ever assembled in our State. That legislature convened at a time when not only was much required and expected of it—owing to the very recent adoption of the New Constitution and the necessity of many changes in existing laws; but the country was upon the eve of the great civil war, and political agitation had reached an exciting stage. Parties were more nearly balanced than they have generally been since. The republicans were flushed with victory, and the democracy, scarcely able to realize that they had lost their power, stubbornly contested every point where it was thought that an outpost could be recaptured. Each party had members upon the floor of the House of surpassing ability—many of whom were highly distinguished, there and in the struggle which ensued. No doubt other Houses have averaged higher in point of the general culture and ability of their members, but few if any one has contained so many men of mark as that of 1860. Those who differ with this view can set forth with their own opinion, for this is a land of free speech. My own purpose is to speak most briefly of a few of the representative men whose names were on my first roll call—like "Old Mortality," to scrape the moss off from some inscriptions which have been carved for many a year on the tomb, as well as to name a few who "still live."

GOV. AND ADJT. GENERAL N. B. BAKER.

The first name on the dear old list is Baker! How that honored name thrills every one who knew the noble man who bore it! He came into the House of 1860 with a high reputation; for he had been speaker in New Hampshire and Governor of that State. He was then a democrat—a warm

decided partisan, but one who could always be depended upon to do justly in general legislation. He was thoroughly well informed—a man of wide and generous culture—full of enthusiasm, energy and the spirit of genuine progress—the peer of any man in debate—the favorite and friend of young men—always on the alert and prepared for any emergency, however sudden—a stalwart worker in committee—and often called to the chair, where he made difficult questions plain and simple, and drove business with whip and spur. Before the next legislature was elected he had been called to the position of Adjutant General of Iowa, where his marvellous executive ability found its fitting theatre of action. I need not speak of the proud record he made. You all understand it. But he passed away in our Centennial year, and sleeps in the cemetery over yonder.

A little down the list we come to the name of Henry Clay Caldwell, of Van Buren, then a rising young lawyer, but full of fire and energy, a born debator, a legislator from instinct, a generous friend, an opponent to be feared, a power in whatever direction he threw his influence. He made a gallant record in the great civil war, and later was called to a high position in the Federal judiciary, which he still adorns.

Thomas W. Clagett, of Lee, came into the House somewhat advanced in life, with a State reputation as a lawyer and jurist. He was a rabid democrat, if the expression may be allowed on this non-partisan occasion, and later on got into a somewhat equivocal position toward the government while the rebellion was still rampant. But his instincts were always with the masses of the people, as he looked at things. He was the founder of our State Agricultural Society, the author, during this session of 1860, of the law which continues until this day, for the redemption of real property sold under mortgage, and he sat down heavily upon a proposition to pay rewards for the destruction of certain of our useful birds. In some respects wrong-headed, he still was a most able and useful member—a kind-hearted, generous friend. He died at Keokuk some years ago.

Scott county had two most able and useful members in the G's—Benj. F. Gue and William F. Gurley. Gue was serving his second session, but ranked among the younger members. He was a ready and talented debator, wide-awake, alert, familiar with all that transpired, the author first and last of many very excellent laws, and one of the most thoroughly useful men in the work of founding our great Agricultural College. A farmer at that time, he was returned again and again, finally to the Senate, and later chosen Lieutenant-Governor. Later still he won a high reputation in the field of Iowa journalism. And later again he served eight years as United States Pension Agent for Iowa and Nebraska. He is now working in the most commendable undertaking of writing a history of Iowa, which we all feel and know has been too long delayed. All who enjoy his acquaintance will rejoice with me that this good and true and able man is with us to-day.

Gurley was one of the "bright particular stars" of that House—possessing a mind very highly disciplined. He was an able, clear-headed lawyer, a fine orator, a man of most genial and polished manners—a very handsome man—a favorite with all who knew him. While he bore a goodly part in the general discussions in the House, he was the author of a complete and most thorough revision of our Revenue Laws. At that time it was almost an impossibility to collect the taxes. So many were delinquent that it had

become a serious question how to pay the current expenses of the State, and the counties as well. Gurley devoted the winter to the work of preparing a revenue law, which was passed, and with such alteration as increased experience has shown to be necessary, stands to-day as he left it. This is glory enough for a State Legislator in his first session. But poor Gurley did not long survive to enjoy his rising fame, for he "sadly passed away" two or three years later.

This was one of the last occasions in which the venerable Judge J. C. Hall, of Burlington, appeared in public life. He had borne an honored part in laying the foundations of our State long before this, and had a high reputation as a lawyer and jurist. He was a man of the greatest purity of character, and possessed the confidence of all parties. His actions were always inspired by a high sense of the public good. I remember him gratefully as one who was ever most genial and kindly in his intercourse with the clerks—who never gave us extra work by filibustering or other nonsense. He placed many good laws upon our statute books—work that ought not to be forgotten.

Rush Clark, of Johnson, was another good legislator—then quite young and in his first term, but a man of generous culture, a born gentleman, possessed of a degree of dignity and candor which won the highest respect. I cannot now particularize his work at this session, but he made such an impression upon his party and the State that he became Speaker of the next House, and afterwards member of Congress, in which position he died some years ago at Washington. He was so much esteemed that his portrait was painted on the ceiling of this House, whence it looks down upon us at this time.

Patrick Robb came in as the representative of the Woodbury District, then including some other counties. He was a bright, well educated, young lawyer, not long out of college, with the minority in politics, but possessed of such excellent personal qualities that he was a favorite in the House from the first day of the session. He introduced several bills and worked hard and successfully for their passage. I remember hearing him say, when the session was about two-thirds through, that his work was done and he was ready to adjourn. He afterwards went to Dubuque where for a time he was the editor-in-chief of *The Herald*. But even when he was in the House he was stricken with consumption from which he died a few years later.

I must not forget "Uncle Zimri Streeter," "Old Blackhawk" as he delighted to be called. He first came to the House in 1858, from Blackhawk county. A pioneer farmer, with little of book learning, but possessed of the rarest fund of wit and humor—he was a general favorite in the House. His expressions were always the briefest. He could rise from his seat, secure the attention of the chair, say something which would set the House in an uproar, and drop into his seat in less time than one could state the case after him. A bill was once under discussion relating to exemptions from sale under execution, which he deemed sheer demagoguery. "Mr. Speaker," said Uncle Zimri, "I hope our benevolent friends will not tinker up the law so as to prevent a feller from paying his debts if he wants to!" He introduced a resolution instructing the Clerk to furnish members with gold pens, whereupon an economist demanded the yeas and nays. "That's

right, that's right," he exclaimed, "I want my constituents to know that I voted for it." The resolution went through with a whirl, and the old man got his pen. His memory is bright in the recollection of all who were familiar with the House of 1860.

"He was one whose wit
Without wounding could hit,
And green be the turf's that's above him."

Cedar county returned Ed. Wright, who had served in one or two previous legislatures. He was always a worker—one of the wheel-horses—thoroughly trained and ever to be depended upon. Chairman of the Committee on Claims, everything which passed his scrutiny was sure to be correct. Then, he was a perfect cyclopedia of information upon parliamentary law. He had Cushing's big, dry manual at his tongue's end. If the House got into a tangle, every one was willing to smother his wrath and sit quietly while Ed. explained the situation and brought order out of the chaos. It was only necessary for him to "lay down the law," and everybody accepted it. Later he had a grand and useful career. He went into the army and rose to the rank of Brigadier-General, coming out with honorable scars. He was Speaker of the House in 1866, six years Secretary of State, retiring contentedly after his splended services to the modest position of Secretary of the Board of Capitol Commissioners. In England he would have been knighted and known as Gen. Sir Ed Wright, or perhaps Duke of Cedar. He is the genius who keeps this magnificent edifice in such fine trim day and night, year in and year out, watching its temperature and respiration with unceasing vigilance. Every one of us is glad in his heart that he is with us in health and vigor to-day.

Our speaker was "Honest John Edwards," of Lucas, who had served most usefully in previous legislatures and in the Constitutional Convention. He was so genial and popular in his manners, so well-informed in parliamentary law, and so well and favorably known over the State, that he had no opposition in the party caucus. He was an excellent presiding officer, though we had a great deal of annoying filibustering that winter, and he was sometimes, when in feeble health, worried quite beyond endurance. In such cases he frequently called Gov. Baker or Ed Wright to the Chair, when the gavel was wielded with a firmer hand. He went into the army, and also rose to be a brigadier. After the war he settled in Arkansas, where he was chosen to Congress.

Floyd county was represented by E. G. Bowdoin, a gentleman of the finest culture. He had had the advantages of a college education, had traveled a great deal, and was reputed to be wealthy. He made an excellent impression upon his colleagues and the State. At the next session he was mentioned in connection with the speakership, and became Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means. A year or two later he was beaten, with several others of us, in a candidacy for Secretary of State, after which he did not appear in State politics. He afterwards spent many years in Washington in some position under the government.

Samuel Merrill came from Clayton. He was a fine looking, most genial, quiet gentleman. He made a strong impression upon the House, for one so little given to mere demonstration. He went into the army and was nearly

shot to pieces in the battle of Black River Bridge. After the war he was made the Governor of our State, and re-elected. He laid the corner stone of this proud, magnificent edifice. Later he succeeded in amassing a very large fortune. He now stands at the threshold of what is called "green old age," with his laudable ambition fully satisfied, contented and happy; an honored citizen of our State, the recipient of everybody's good wishes.

Among those who will never answer to any earthly roll-call is the name of Chauncey Gillett, of Franklin, Chairman of the Committee on Township and County Organization. He led the fight which got rid of the autocratic county Judges and substituted in their stead the Supervisor system—a most genuine reform. Gillett was even then in poor health and did not long survive.

George W. Bemis, of Buchanan, began his public life in this House. He was a singularly quiet young member, much disgusted with the loquacity of some of his associates, and pledged to not open his mouth on the floor—until the House one day paused in its business to enable him, upon a request, to explain a bill he had introduced. This he did so admirably that the bill passed almost unanimously. He is now a white-haired, though not a very old man, after having served several terms as Treasurer of State. Few men are so highly installed in the substantial regard of their friends.

Hartley Bracewell, a clergyman-member from Wayne, was also a new man. He proved to be so good a member that he came back again.

Stewart Goodrell, of Polk, was a natural leader of men. He had served before, and was one of the most influential members, always a worker, and though an active partisan, his votes were always on the right side.

George W. Ruddick was the youthful member from Bremer, a quiet modest young lawyer, but reasonably active, and always trusted by the House. He made a fine record in every respect. He is now one of the best known Circuit Judges in Iowa.

Samuel Rees, of Webster, was a democrat, who was not only strong with his own party, but most influential with the republicans where political questions were not at issue. He still lives at Fort Dodge, and I am glad that the years have dealt with him kindly.

R. D. Kellogg of Decatur, Harvey Danlavy of Davis, D. M. Harris of Audubon, N. G. Hedges of Lee, M. W. Robinson and Justus Clark of Des Moines, Williamson of Louisa, Michael Price and Geo. C. Stanton of Muscatine, A. M. Cowing of Poweshiek, Leroy Lambert of Dallas, Amos Witter and Jennings Crawford of Linn, Wm. Bremner of Marshall, Charles Paulk of Allamakee, M. B. Bennett of Marion, J. D. Jennings of Dubuque, J. E. Blackford of Kossuth, Cornelius Beal of Boone, R. W. Macomber of Cass, J. W. Denison of Crawford, S. B. Rossenkrans of Hamilton, and the venerable Abram Tompkins, who is with us to-day, were among the working members who made excellent reputations that winter. Some of them were returned to succeeding legislatures and some called to higher fields of usefulness. And some are no longer among the living.

The Senate contained many able men—among whom one instinctively recalls the names of Wilson of Jefferson, Duncombe of Webster, Bowen of Johnson, Henderson of Warren, Coolbaugh of Des Moines, Pusey of Pottawattamie, Saunders of Henry, Rankin of Lee, the Davises of Polk and Clinton, Anderson of Lucas, Thompson of Scott, Udell of Appanoose, and Drum-

mond of Benton. Poor Tom Drummond!—one of the truest friends any man ever had!—one of the choicest spirits and one of the brightest members of the Iowa editorial fraternity of those early days. He entered the regular army soon after the rebellion began, and was killed at the battle of Five Forks! He was a native of Virginia, but freely gave his life to the Union.

THE OLD "WAR GOVERNOR" AND HIS JOHN BROWN INAUGURAL.

Samuel J. Kirkwood had ended his State Senatorship the previous session and was now our Governor. He had impressed the people with the idea that he was a very strong, very able, and very just man—an impression that never died out, but has only increased with the lapse of time. He came before the joint convention at his inauguration with a magnificent address. While other Governors have given us strong and able addresses, I think it is very doubtful whether any other has made so deep an impression upon the public mind. Great questions were before the State and country, and they were all discussed with the skill of a trained publicist and the intuitions of a far-seeing statesman. He plead earnestly for an enlightened support of the cause of education—for a free ballot and a fair count—for the support of our then slowly developing system of public benevolent institutions—for the State University and Agricultural College, both then in their infancy—for the protection of our school fund, which had been subject to criminal waste—for the more efficient collection of our revenues and for economy in their expenditure—for the enactment of the Homestead Law by Congress—for the building of the railroad to the Pacific Ocean. But the great feature of his inaugural was his discussion of the slavery question, in its then condition, just before the outbreak of the great civil war. He contended against the extension of slavery and congratulated the country that Kansas, after her long and bloody struggle, stood ready to demand admission as a free state.

He spoke of John Brown's raid upon Harper's Ferry as a "mad attempt" and an "unlawful invasion," saying, however, that—

"While the great mass of our northern people utterly condemn the act of John Brown, they feel and they express admiration and sympathy for the disinterestedness of purpose by which they believe he was governed, and for the unflinching courage and calm cheerfulness with which he met the consequences of his failure. Many, very many of our northern people, felt deep sympathy for the gallant Crittenden, who died so bravely in Cuba, for an act they strongly condemned; and the tears of many of the best and bravest of our revolutionary sires bedewed the grave of Andre, who, by their own judgment, died the death of a spy, his sentence approved by Washington. When passion has passed away, and calm reason has resumed its place in the minds of our southern brethren, they will fully appreciate our feelings, and then, if I do not mistake them, while with us they condemn yet pity John Brown as a misguided but not base minded man, they will also with us detest and scorn those men in our midst who now seek by distorting our language and falsifying our sentiments, to use the passions and prejudices of our southern brethren as a means to pave their own base way to power and place."

This language stirred up a hornet's nest in the House. It was debated

several evenings in succession, the chief speakers, however, being Clagett and Gurley. The Republicans stoutly defended Gov. Kirkwood, while the Democrats assailed his language as being little short of revolutionary. Gurley surpassed himself upon this occasion, closing his most eloquent tribute to the Governor and his sentiments, with the concluding lines of Longfellow's "Ship of State." Tumultuous applause greeted the young orator at the close, and the members thronged around him with warmest congratulations. Clagett began his speech standing behind an immense semi-circular pile of books, which loomed up before him like a fortification. He removed his coat and sweat like a man a-mowing. The Democrats were quite as enthusiastic over his speech as the Republicans were over Gurley's. An amusing story grew out of this speech. Clagett had hired a stenographer to report his effort in full; but when the report was written out, he was not satisfied with it. In his daily conversation he used what the late Gen. Fitz Henry Warren styled "the energetic idiom." "By blank, sir," he exclaimed, "you have left out all the sense there was in it, sir!" "Can't help your opinion, Judge, but it is word for word as you uttered it!" Clagett, however, published it, and it was commented upon by the opposition press as the "speech which—by blank, sir" had "no sense in it, sir!"

Gov. Kirkwood has never made a more brilliant effort than this John Brown Inaugural, which was not only famous in its day, but reads capitally even at this later time, when the issues he discussed have been settled forever.

Time fails me to speak of each of these, my old friends, as I could wish; but it is certainly a matter for profound thankfulness that so many of us have lived to see this day and to be brought together once again. The revision of 1860, the new revenue law, the change in county government, the law establishing the equity of redemption for real property sold under mortgage—measures for the development and support of our systems of benevolent and educational institutions—then in their infancy—constituted the important work of the session, while there was about the usual amount of less important general legislation. An extra session was called in the summer of 1861, at which measures were adopted to support the general government in putting down the rebellion. This session lasted about a week. As soon as the Speaker declared the house adjourned without day, the members rose to their feet and woke the echoes of the old Hall of Representatives by singing "The Star Spangled Banner." And then came their second separation—which was final.

Following him Hon. Hawkins Taylor, member of the First Territorial Assembly, was called upon and responded, expressing himself as being greatly pleased with his reception at his old home. He said:

We, old legislators, did not have the railroads to find fault with, and these new ones do but little else. The worst thing about these roads is that they are gathering all the talent of the land to their immediate work. As I look around me I find everything wonderfully changed, everything but the weather, that remains the same as fifty years ago. In those olden times we

gathered together such men as Patterson, Grimes, Hempstead and Hastings, and no one felt the influence of party feeling.

Mr. Taylor then gave some interesting reminiscences of those days of long ago, dwelling upon the old capital location fight at some length. His reception was among the most cordial of the day, and was evidently very grateful to him. At the close of his speech adjournment was taken till 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was opened with music by the orchestra, after which the arrival of the Senate and House of the Twenty-first General Assembly was announced: After they had been formally received President Duncombe announced that the audience would listen to a message from ex-Governor Gear. The Governor was granted a hearty reception, and read the following excellent message:

Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa: I came here, expecting in common with you, to hear an address from our honored senior Governor, who himself is an influential member of your Association. Unfortunately for you he is not able to be present, and the committee have selected me to address you on this notable occasion, probably because of the fact that I am to-day the only living representative of territorial days who has been honored with the office of chief magistrate. It is eminently proper that you, the early law-makers of the Territory and State, should meet to renew old friendships, many of which commenced half a century ago. I am glad that so many of you are spared to be present here to-day to take part in this, the first reunion of Iowa law-makers. When you laid the political foundation of the State, we had but 22,859 population, and but little was known of her physical characteristics; in fact, in 1845, when the people voted on the proposed first constitution, which made our western boundary line about where Creston is, they were urged to accept this boundary because it was claimed all west of that line was part of the "Great American Desert." But the pioneer Legislatures were enterprising, intelligent and wise. You foresaw that on this vast plateau of land, at no distant day, was to be built up one of the great commonwealths of the Nation. Much of the rapid growth and development of Iowa is to be attributed to the wise system of legislation devised and inaugurated by you and your associates. As a citizen of Iowa, whose residence antedates her territorial organization, I take great pride in the fact that I have lived to see her wondrous growth, and that I have known for nearly half a century so many of the men who have been active in carrying the State forward to the high place she occupies to-day among the States of the Union. You have been spared to see Iowa outgrow many of the States which are fifty years older. This growth does not relate to population and material advancement alone, but also to those influences which elevate and conduce to human prosperity and welfare in the highest sense. In population your State ranks the tenth, in agriculture she ranks

the first in per capita of cereals and food products, in corn second in production, in hogs the first, in cattle second, in wheat sixth, in oats second, and in dairy products first. In railways she is the third, in the number of schools and teachers fifth, in proportion of persons over ten years of age able to read we have the proud record of being the first. Of those above that age there are only two and three-tenths per cent who are unable read, a fact unparalleled in the history of any State or Nation. The graduates of our High Schools, University, Agricultural College, and indeed of all our Colleges, are found in every hamlet in the State, and are doing their full part in her material and intellectual development. In charitable institutions she is in the front rank, and provides for the unfortunate generously. If such has been her development in the first forty-eight years of her existence, what may we not expect when she has attained her growth? With the most salubrious climate on the continent, and with her fertile soil, Iowa is capable of sustaining an immense population and is destined to wield a mighty influence in the Nation.

It took a century and a half for population and civilization to climb the Alleghanies. There it rested for a while to look over the valleys of the Ohio and Mississippi. A half a century later it began to venture beyond the "Father of Waters." To-day the center of population and political empire rests near Cincinnati. A few years later it will possibly locate within our own borders. In view of what some of you expressed in that long ago, I am reminded of the language used by that man who was the political idol of so many of the pioneers of Iowa, as well as of myriads of people elsewhere, the great statesman of Kentucky, when, as Speaker of the House of Representatives, he welcomed Lafayette. He said: "The vain wish has sometimes been indulged that Providence would allow the patriot after death to return to his country and to contemplate the intermediate changes which had taken place—to view the forests felled, the cities built, the mountains leveled, the canals cut, the highways constructed, the progress of the arts, the advancement of learning and the increased population." And he added, "Your visit is a realization of the consoling object of that wish. You are in the midst of prosperity." Like Lafayette, yet unlike it, is the situation to-day of the fathers of our commonwealth. You do not, it is true, see mountains leveled and canals dug, because the one was not needed and water-ways have largely given place to a swifter mode of communication, barely known when Iowa began its career, but which has grid-ironed the land with roads of metal on which are swiftly borne the wealth of our fields, our herds, our mines and our shops, as well as the traffic of China and Japan. You, too, are in the midst of posterity, but they are not strangers to you. Your pioneer hands did the work necessary in its day for the development of the later times. You largely guided that posterity in the direction of the needed effort and you have been with them in their struggles and are now permitted to share in their triumphs. The period of forty-eight years since the first legislature met at Burlington, has been among the most eventful in human history. The peoples of the Old World then yet unconscious, from the staggering blows dealt them by the Holy Alliance, have since shaken off their stupor and all over Europe, except in mysterious Russia the despotism which then shackled progress and menaced intellect, has given place to liberal institutions. To-day the tri-color of France, our ally in the

War of the Revolution and from whom we obtained the vast domain now our home, is the emblem of the second most powerful republic of the world. We have seen Germany so long divided among a horde of petty princes, now become a united and powerful nation.

Italy so long the football of despots and the prey of tyrants, has awakened to a new life and taken her place among the nations of the earth, and nowhere in Christendom is there a despotic government. In our own country, the baleful institution which blighted so much of our land and discredited the republic's claim to the home of the free has disappeared, and although it went down in the throes of civil convulsions, yet we may now rejoice that even those who defended it have no longer occasion to regret the result. And we have seen this Iowa, herself the first free daughter of the famous Missouri Compromise which forever dedicated her soil to freedom, and the repeal of which lighted the flame that spread until it became the consuming fire of civil war—we have seen this Iowa, I say, send to the field in defense of the nation's imperilled integrity three times as many men as the sum of the entire population for which your first legislature enacted laws. How proud you were; how proud we all were, of Iowa's record in that conflict! Glorious though it was, heaven grant that never more again shall American be in arms against American. Indeed, let us hope that the glories of State and Nation may in future, even more than in the past, be derived from the triumphs of peace and the victories attendant upon material, intellectual and moral progress. And the material progress has been even greater than the political. The steam power of that time was only a babe beside the giant motor we now have. There was then not a mile of railroad west of the Alleghanies. When the first Iowa Legislature met at Burlington, its members got there, some by steamboat, many by stage coach, some on horseback and perhaps some on foot. The Legislatures embraced in this reunion cover the stage coach period of Iowa. The Eleventh being the last General Assembly to meet before a railroad reached the present capital of the State. The proceedings of earliest Legislatures were not sent to the world with the speed of lightning for the telegraph had not then given a hint of its wonderful possibilities. Even the little friction match, to-day so absolutely necessary to our convenience was unknown at that time. In all departments of enterprise and in almost everything pertaining to human effort and even individual comfort, the world has witnessed a progress never before realized in a like period. It is sad to contemplate how many of those embraced in the terms of the call which brought you here have passed from earth. It was not to be expected, indeed, that it would be otherwise. In the order of Providence of those who took part in the government of Iowa, in its non-age much the larger part have passed away. None at all of the executive officers are now living, and only one of the judges remains, Hon. Thos. S. Wilson, of Dubuque, whom we rejoice to meet with at this time. One even yet survives, it is true, who sat in the Wisconsin Legislature fifty years ago, as a representative from the county of Dubuque, the venerable Loring Wheeler of DeWitt.

And there also remains a yet earlier lawmaker in whom we are interested, Morgan Lewis Martin, of Green Bay, Wis., who sat in the Territorial Legislature of Michigan, that created the counties of Des Moines and Dubuque, and whose district included all of what is now Iowa and Minnesota. One

member of the first Territorial Council still lives in an honorable old age, yet I regret to say not able to be with us, who in that body represented an extent of country greater than that embraced in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. It comprised the present counties of Dubuque, Jackson and Clayton, and the then vast unoccupied county of Fayette. His district extended from where now stands Sabula on the southeast to where the White-Earth river enters our National domain on the northwest, and from where Sioux City now flourishes to the Red River of the North. How one wishes he could have stood with the pioneers of our Iowa and told them of the glories to come. Look at this magnificent district the now venerable Warner Lewis represented. See in it not only the northern third of what is now Iowa, but the greater part of the State of Minnesota and the great grain regions of the overgrown Territory of Dakota, which is now vainly striving to divest itself of the garments of political childhood and assume the habiliments of Statehood. Could a citizen aspire to represent a region of more magnificent promise. Of our other territorial legislators, few survive, and of the State Legislatures whose members were invited to meet here even the latest has been decimated. Thus the great Reaper does his work. But though the mortal frame fall before his relentless sweep, he blots not out the life work done; and of those who for this reason come not to your gathering, this is especially true. It has been my fortune to have a personal acquaintance with all executive and judicial officers of Iowa—Territorial and State—including Gov. Henry Dodge, of Wisconsin, and with many of the members of every Legislature from that which met at Belmont, Wisconsin, in 1836, to the one in session in this city in this year of grace 1886, and I cheerfully bear testimony to the worth of the pioneer law-makers of Iowa, but of this I need not speak to you who knew them so much better. They have gone on to their reward, but their works remain.

Pioneer Councilors, Senators and Representatives: Your pleasant reunion will soon be among the things of the past; and you will have returned to your homes in different portions of the State and beyond its borders to distant parts of the country. As you go, I doubt not you will take with you pleasant recollections of this gathering. You laid the foundations of the commonwealth broad and deep, and the structure grows commensurate with those foundations. Around you everywhere are evidences bewildering beyond the vagaries of the dreamer of the magnificence of that structure. May you in the providence of God be spared for many years to come to witness the development the future has in store for us, grander let us hope, than even that of the brilliant past. And in all this continued development the people of Iowa will cherish with increasing pleasure and pride the memory of your efforts in her foundation and growth.

This able document was given a cordial reception, and an attention evincing the absorbing interest felt by all in the wonderful growth described. On every hand the governor was the recipient of the most hearty congratulations for his able address, one of the best brought before the assembly.

The choir, consisting of Mrs. Cheek, Mrs. Robinson, and Capt.

Muffly, then sang "America" in an inspiring manner. After which Hon. C. F. Clarkson was introduced, and spoke as follows:

It is not probable the most devoted believer in the perfection of the human race, but will admit that many of the affairs of mankind are carelessly done. The committee of arrangements, in preparing for this reunion, evidently reversed the order of things. When the children of Israel were in sore trouble, the Lord selected a man slow of speech to lead them out of bondage and through the Red Sea. But he prepared another and a different man to do the talking. And when Abraham Lincoln wanted a general to lead the Union army to subdue the rebellion, he selected a man slow of speech, Gen. U. S. Grant. But when Lincoln wanted heavy ordinance in the shape of the best orator the world could produce, to silence the rebellious sentiments of Europe, he selected Henry Ward Beecher.

The committee of arrangements should have selected such orators as Chancellor Ross and Judge Crookham, who were with me in the Senate during the Tenth and Eleventh General Assemblies. They can tell all they know, and more too, and love to do it. Then they might put me in command of a squad of Governor's Guards. But I want it distinctly understood, however, that the squad would not by any direction of mine make a raid on any of the State offices, or anything else, unless it might be a well loaded lunch table.

The Senates of 1864 and 1866 were composed especially of the right kind of men for the occasion. Its works were amidst the days of America's most troublesome years. No one deliberative Assembly was wise enough to meet all of the emergencies of the times. The Assembly of 1864 held its session during the darkest days of the rebellion, requiring wisdom to direct wisely all our resources to put down armed rebellion in the South, and great care and watchfulness to smother the incipient stages of rebellion in the North. And the Assembly of 1866 was called to its labors just at the commencement of the search for that untrodden path, the reconstruction of subdued States, in a republic. Statesmen stood aghast at the solution of the question, while the wisest political economists were at sea. The National Congress, burthened with the responsibility of the occasion, looked for assistance, advice and courage to the governors and legislatures of all of the loyal states.

If, therefore, the people of Iowa, especially in those years of trouble, elected better men than usual to the General Assembly, none should feel jealous of the prominence which history gives them over the Assemblies prior or since. I have never seen a man but what he was proud that it was his fortune to have shared in the work and honors of those years. But it is evident it was the great emergency which probably prompted the people to elect so many good and great men to those special assemblies. It would be pleasure, in due time, to write the obituary of all of them. But when I hear the roll call, and look around over this audience, the absence of many of those who mingled most prominently as members of the Senate in 1864 and 1866, is more conspicuous than even the presence of the remnant of us who are left. A retrospection of what time, disease and death have made on the noble of that period forcibly brings to us, the words so frequently and so mournfully repeated by the second savior of his country:

“O, why should the spirit of mortal man be proud,
Like the swift-fleeting meteor, a fast flying cloud,
A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,
Man passes from life to his rest in the grave.”

In the twenty years which have passed since the close of the Eleventh General Assembly, time and fortune have been busy with the members of the Senate. Many of them have aimed successfully for better things, and have been called to prominent places in their country's service; such as Supreme Judge, Representatives in Congress, Judges of District and Circuit Courts, and even Candidates for Governor. In all of which they have faithfully discharged their duties and honored their State.

But a large number have failed by the way, laid their armors down, drawn about them their mantles and rested from their labors. I would like to perpetuate each one of their memories, by extolling their virtues and forgetting their foibles, but fifteen minutes limit, forbids.

In recalling the names of the absent, no form in our recollection stands taller and straighter than that of Fitz Henry Warren. Highly educated and the soul of honor, he was a man of mark and genius, such as it is impossible to forget. But

Like the falling of a star,
Or as the flight of eagles are,
Or like the fresh spring's gaudy hue,
Or silver drops of morning dew,

his proud spirit took its flight to the unknown and unseen, leaving many sacred recollections of devoted friendship, which will only be blotted out when man is forgotten and the stars cease to shine.

Nor can we forget Senator T. W. Woolson, father of the present Honorable Senator Woolson, of Henry. The senior Senator Woolson was a natural born legislator. He had all of the talents, acquirements and watchful industry for such a position. He was always there, and nothing escaped, great or small, his scrutiny. He believed and acted as a Senator ought—attended to his official business with the same fidelity and care that he would his private interests. I think there will be no disposition to disparage the statement that Senator T. W. Woolson was one of the best legislators Iowa ever had. He was courteous in all of his intercourse, and honest in all of his aims and aspirations. If Iowa has cause to mourn the death of any of her priceless legislators she can freely pour out her libations to the memory of T. W. Woolson. But honor and probity are no shield from the great enemy.

“The glories of our birth and State,
Are shadows, not substantial things;
There is no armor against fate.
Death lays his icy hands on kings.
Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet—and blossom in the dust.”

Where is there a man who was a member of the Senate during the 11th General Assembly but what can now shut his eyes and imagine he hears the sharp, pungent invective, and the deep logical research of the lamented and early harvested Senator M. E. Cutts. He was a man of such mark that his image and devoted friendship will stand by, and elevate the sentiments of his contemporaries as long as life and being last. He was devoted in his friendships, an honor to the legal profession, an incorruptible legislator, and

an honest man. His talent and oratory combined with others are some of the prominent reasons why the Senator of the 11th General Assembly stands out so prominently in Iowa's legislative history. And had it been the pleasure of Providence to have spared his life, and permitted him to be here, does any one doubt he would electrify us with his steel cut sentences, and inimitable oratory, as no other man could?

But time flies, and our words must be few. We who are here, as well as those who have gone before, will soon only be known in history. And even the memory of us will fade, like the dissolving granite of the mountains, as time and rapidly receding years will soon bury all in the quiet of oblivion!

“But all loved friends that vanish, or that die,
Will meet in some sweet by-and-by.”

Hon. John Russell was introduced and spoke as follows:

Mr. President: I was surprised at the announcement made before dinner that I was to be called upon for a speech this afternoon. I have to accept the situation, however, and what I say will have the single virtue of brevity if no other should attach to it. When I look over this assembly I can see no member wearing the badge of this reunion who has not reached the years of mature manhood. Nearly all are blessed with grey hairs and can look back on the great events in which they have acted a conspicuous part in laying the substantial foundations of the grandest commonwealth that exists on the face of the globe to-day. Young men can only look on what they expect to do. We older men can look upon our past as well as anticipate the future. The past history and landmarks of our now great State, is what we are here met to contemplate. We are blessed in making this retrospect to have the presence of some of those who were present in laying the very foundations of our prosperous commonwealth. We are forcibly reminded of what Iowa is to-day by the able address made by our esteemed ex-Governor Gear. What it was when its foundations were laid we have heard from the lips of a yet living witness and actor in the person of Mr. Taylor. Those of us who have been called upon to act our parts in the intermediate legislative assemblies are pleased to meet so many with whom we have been associated in legislative duties. We can all, I hope, unite in the expression of the great poet when he says:

“Still o'er these scenes my memory wakes,
And fondly broods with wiser care,
Time but the impression stronger makes,
As streams their channels deeper wear.”

After an excellent rendition of the “Old Oaken Bucket” by the choir and orchestra, Judge Wright proposed the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that these reunions should be continued, and that the President and Secretary in office at adjournment be directed to call another for four years from this time, so as to include the members of the Twelfth General Assembly and all prior Territorial and State Assemblies, and that all subsequent meetings be held every four years, including members of the Assembly four years in advance of the present meeting.

This resolution was carried with an enthusiasm which testified to the enjoyment all present had experienced in their present reunion.

Senator Hebard said:

I did not come here to take any part except as a listener. I can only talk of the incidents of the early history of the State. I came with other friends across the father of waters in the year '37, when there was no State of Iowa. My first experience west of the Mississippi was going to the city of Keokuk. Keokuk is at the head of the rapids, and was an enterprising city, and I wanted to see it before settling. I stayed at the Rapids Hotel, but the reception was too warm and I moved away into the upper county. We took our land by a club law of which I am proud, as I was a judge of that law myself, and I think the results of its action were as good and as near justice as any that have ever been enforced in the State. We organized courts and tried cases without lawyers, and the decisions were final, fatal and eternal. Well we struggled through, and came to the legislative period. We had a legislative ticket to elect, on which Mr. Grimes and myself were co-laborers. Yesterday, when the roll was called, I alone answered to a name, and am really the last leaf on the tree. Then I thought I owed it to myself and my co-laborers in those olden times to give that leaf one little flutter before you as a matter of justice. We have a duty yet to perform. The legislators only formulate rules and regulations, while the people give the laws from the broad legislature of a nation.

Ex-Senator Boardman, the originator of the reunion, was called out and responded in a short address, expressing his enjoyment of the occasion and his gratification at again meeting his old friends. He spoke of the good work accomplished by the Ninth General Assembly in the matter of revenue laws and other matters of lasting importance.

Lieutenant-Governor Hull was called upon and responded briefly but appropriately to the call, welcoming the gentlemen of the reunion to their capitol and thanking them for their beneficent influence upon the Legislature now in session.

Mr. Holbrook then presented, in behalf of the Twenty-first General Assembly, the congratulatory resolutions passed by it.

Judge Wright moved that the resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the meeting and that their thanks be returned for these complimentary resolutions, which motion prevailed without dissent.

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTIONS.

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

That as representatives of the people of Iowa here assembled, we extend to the survivors of the Pioneer Territorial and State legislatures now re-assembled here, our sincere and hearty congratulations.

That we note with great pleasure the complete success of this their first reunion, and hope it may be the precursor of many such for each and every one of them.

That we recognize in the members of this reunion the reliable and successful founders and builders of the grand system of wise and humane laws which have contributed so much to the prosperity, character and greatness of our grand commonwealth.

That we refer with pride to their example as legislators, and express the conviction that if we and our successors continue to build as wisely and as well as they began, the future contains a long vista of honor, wealth and happiness for our people; that we will cherish this occasion of commingling with our old time leaders and legislators as a most happy incident in our lives.

That we devoutly invoke for them, each and all, continued enjoyment in their visit and a safe return to their homes, a sunlit pathway for the remainder of their earthly existence, and finally the ineffable blessings of the life beyond.

N. B. HOLBROOK,
L. A. RILEY,
R. H. SPENCER,
On part of the House.

W. G. DONNAN,
JOHN S. WOOLSON,
W. J. KNIGHT,
On part of the Senate.

Speaker Head, in response to a call said:

Mr. Speaker, Pioneer Legislators and Gentlemen of the Twenty-first General Assembly:

I trust it will not be deemed out of place on this occasion and in this presence, for one of the younger members of the Iowa Legislature to refer briefly to the great growth and unparalleled development of this great commonwealth. From the small beginning of which the distinguished Pioneer Legislators have so eloquently and interestingly spoken to-day, Iowa has taken a position among the sisterhood of States of which the old, the middle-aged and young may well feel proud. Standing first in the leading productions of grain; first in the number of swine; first in butter; second in number of cattle, Texas only surpassing her. Ranking first of all the States in point of intelligence, and with less persons in prisons in proportion to population, excepting Minnesota; with colleges, universities, academies and schools unsurpassed in the Union. With ample railroad facilities in every county, and the third State in the Union as to number of miles of track and equipment, leading the six New England States in miles of railroads, Iowa excites the astonishment, and, I fear, the envy of many older States. With an output of over four million tons of bituminous coal annually from her undeveloped coal fields, Iowa can furnish fuel for the factories of the Nation and still have abundance for export for centuries to come. With a good supply of fuel, for steam power, unlimited coal mines, fertile fields and never failing crops, manufacturing establishments are settling down quietly over the black diamond coal fields, and beside the bursting corn cribs, oat and

wheat bins, hog pens and cattle yards, and ere another quarter century shall have passed, the State of population and wealth will be found in the Mississippi Valley, and Iowa will lead all the States in manufacture, as she now leads them in agriculture, should the present protective policy of the government be continued.

This great growth and development, happiness and prosperity, is due in a great measure to the wise, just and equitable legislation of the Pioneer Legislators who are here assembled, and as distinguished services merit the approval and commendation of any people, I, in behalf of and for the House of Representatives, Twenty-first General Assembly, tender to you, Pioneer Legislators, grateful thanks for the noble part you have performed in the development of this great State.

As a slight testimonial of our appreciation and a token of respect to one of the oldest legislators here to-day, the House of Representatives have requested me to present to the Hon. Hawkins Taylor, one of the Territorial members of the council, this cane, and with it their kind regards and highest esteem, trusting it may, in some measure, express their regard and be by you esteemed as a souvenir of this memorable occasion, and a sustaining comfort in your declining years. Accept, venerable sir, this token of our esteem, and may many years of happiness be in store for you; and may you, sir, live to see Iowa, now one of the brightest jewels in the diadem of States, wear a still brighter crown of prosperity.

As he closed his eloquent tribute, Speaker Head presented Mr. Taylor with an elegant gold headed cane, the entire audience greeting this graceful act with round after round of applause.

Mr. Taylor responded in a most feeling manner, calling forth an appreciative response from his hearers. It was an exceedingly appropriate testimonial and feelingly presented.

THE RECEPTION.

In the evening the new capitol was thrown open and brilliantly illuminated for the reception of the visiting veterans of Iowa's Legislatures. Governor Larrabee, assisted by ex-Governors Gear and Sherman, Lieutenant-Governor Hull and Speaker Head, received the attending throng informally in the Governor's parlors, which were filled from the opening of the doors until a late hour. The other State offices were thrown open and the officers received their friends there during the evening. The attendance was large but unusually select, admission being by ticket alone. It was among the most pleasant of the many receptions given in this beautiful building and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Judge Thomas S. Wilson, the only surviving federal officer of territorial days, was asked for an address, to which he responded briefly but to the point. He recalled the experience of that olden time and paid an eloquent tribute to his associates long since

dead. His reminiscences of the old courts and their happenings were peculiarly interesting.

Resolutions of thanks to the railroad companies for favors granted and the choir and Foster's Orchestra for the excellent music furnished, were unanimously passed, as was the following resolution offered by Judge Noble:

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Reunion Assembly are hereby extended to the Governor of Iowa, to all of the Executive officers of the State of Iowa, to the Senate and House of Representatives of the Legislature, to all the hotels and citizens of Des Moines for courtesies extended to the members of the Reunion.

Hon. S. M. Weaver was called upon in behalf of the House to address the assembly. He expressed his sense of gratitude for the favors conferred upon the State by the veteran law makers. Most of the present members knew Iowa in her best days. You took an honored and honorable part in laying the foundation of the present prosperity and advancement of the State. We trust you can see something in this advancement to repay your labors.

Senator Woolson was called for, and his name was greeted with cheers, but unfortunately he was not present to respond.

Judge Mitchell, now of Nebraska, was called out and responded in one of the most affective addresses of the afternoon. He recalled the labors of the Ninth General Assembly, and paid an eloquent tribute to the true, patriotic Iowa soldiers. He said:

We have heard much about the wonderful growth of Iowa, but God had put there the fruitful seed of promise and all that was needed was the American character to bring about this phenomenal development. In the great American desert everywhere are springing up sister States, born from the wilderness, but destined to future greatness. In one of them just across your border, I now have the honor to reside; but that residence and the loves it brings have not detracted from the old affection which still endears Iowa and her people to me. I revere the men and the labors of the Ninth General Assembly, and I must ever love the patriotism and heroic devotion of the Iowa soldier. But, gentlemen, I have already spoken too long—

Saying which the Judge sank back into his seat and then pitched headlong into the isle. In an instant all was confusion about him, and there was an evident disposition on the part of every one to rush to his side. But the chairman proved equal to the occasion, and succeeded in maintaining comparative order.

Dr. Caldwell was near and immediately took charge of the stricken man. It took some time for the full weight of the calamity to be felt throughout the house, and there was some disposition

to proceed with the business, but Dr. Caldwell announced in a few moments "Judge Mitchell is dead," and the business of the reunion was brought to a close. Word was instantly sent to Mr. J. A. Harvey of this city, his brother-in-law, and arrangements were made to care for the remains. The physician pronounced it a case of apoplexy.

Hon. J. B. Grinnell generously offered the use of the Grand Opera House for a memorial meeting in the evening and the Assembly adjourned until that time. This sudden calamity coming upon one of their most respected members cast a gloom upon the entire assembly.

Up to that time nothing had happened to mar the harmony of the reunion, which had been such to a greater degree than is usual on such occasions, but this tragic death made a sad ending for their festivities. In company with Col. Wilson, of Lincoln, Judge Mitchell had left his business to attend this meeting of his old friends and had been standing in the rear of the house listening to the speeches when the song, "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground," called him forth. Chancellor Ross, an old time friend, then called upon him for an address which resulted in the sad occurrence related above. It was indeed a tragic ending to an exceedingly pleasant reunion.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

There was a large gathering in the Grand Opera House in the evening, to conduct a service in honor of the memory of Judge James L. Mitchell, whose sudden death had cast such a gloom over the afternoon meeting of the Iowa Lawmakers. The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Thomas Merrill, after which Judge Noble reported, in behalf of the committee, the following resolutions of respect:

WHEREAS, In the midst of our deliberation, the Hon. James L. Mitchell, while engaged in responding most happily and eloquently to a call from the Assembly, dropped suddenly to his seat and was in a few moments thereafter pronounced, by the attending physician, as past recovery, and almost immediately as dead, and

WHEREAS, Judge Mitchell, though then a young man, was a most useful and active member of the Ninth General Assembly of this State—afterwards a gallant soldier in the army of the Union—and for years an honored and able member of the judiciary in the sister State of Nebraska, and

WHEREAS, We feel most sadly and deeply this much lamented ending of an otherwise most pleasant and long to be remembered reunion. Therefore be it

Resolved, That in the death of Judge Mitchell this assembly recognizes a sad and sudden close of a most useful, valuable and active life. He was a legislator commanding universal respect for his probity, his industry, and for his fine legal ability. As a soldier, ever true to his high trust, loyal to the flag—his last words as death fixed its grasp upon him, "I love the Union, I love Iowa, and I love Iowa soldiers," fully reflecting his devotion and his love for his former loved comrades. As a jurist, commanding the respect of the people, the confidence of the bar, able, pure and upright, and in his death Iowa mourns a true man—Nebraska an honored and loyal citizen; and this assembly one whom we were all glad to greet, and his untimely death serves most solemnly to impress upon us the uncertainty of life, the nobility of his nature and his love for us and the country which he so well served and battled to save.

Resolved, That this resolution be spread upon the records of this reunion, and copies furnished the papers for publication, and that a duly and properly engrossed copy thereof, signed by the President and attested by the Secretary, be forwarded to his family with our sincere condolence to them in their sad and irreparable loss.

These resolutions were adopted by a rising vote, one of the most solemnly impressive scenes of the evening.

Hon. J. B. Grinnell followed with a few appropriate remarks, after which the choir sang "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground" with an expression that brought tears to the eyes of all present. This song was peculiarly appropriate as it had just preceded the fatal speech of the afternoon and it recalled that scene with such vividness as to deeply move the entire audience.

Col. Wilson, of Lincoln, Nebraska, an intimate friend of Judge Mitchell, then spoke briefly of the life and virtues of his departed friend. He had known him intimately during the past twenty-four years, their acquaintance beginning in the Ninth General Assembly. Together they had sought a life of peace. He had known the Judge intimately through all these years and could pay him no higher tribute than that of being a thoroughly honest, true man, in all the relations of life.

Judge Reed said:

I am called upon to discharge one of the saddest duties of my life, and were I to consult my own feelings I would remain silent. I have known Judge Mitchell during the past thirteen years intimately and in all the relations of life. I have known him as a lawyer, and our acquaintance was of that pleasant character which comes from congenial spirits. As an advocate he had few equals in the State, and none in his district. He entered the service of his country and discharged every duty with fidelity. Soon after moving to Nebraska he was called to serve in the legislature, and but a year since was called to the bench of his district, in both of which capacities he served with fidelity, as he did in every position life called upon him to fill.

Chancellor Ross said:

It is now twenty years since I first became acquainted with our brother who has just passed over. He was born in Indiana in 1834, where he lived until the year 1857, when he moved to Iowa, settling in Fremont county. In the next year he was elected clerk of the courts and served one term. He was then elected as a member of the Ninth General Assembly. During this session he volunteered as a Union soldier in Company "E" of the 29th Iowa. He followed the fortunes of his regiment until the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, where he was wounded, and to some extent disabled for life. Shortly after the close of the war he removed to Nebraska, where he was elected a member of the Lower House, serving with that ability and fidelity ever characteristic of the man. A little more than a year since he was called by the governor of his State and the bar of his district to the district bench, which position he has since adorned. He was twice married, his second wife and three children being left to mourn his untimely death.

Mr. Ross then spoke feelingly of the last incidents of his life, and closed with an eloquent tribute to the manly worth of the deceased.

COL. JED LAKE'S ADDRESS.

It is true patriotism in any one to forego the pursuit of that which animates the bosoms of all men, to-wit: the pursuit of an acquisition of sufficient of this world's goods to make us comfortable in our old age, and devote his time to the service of the State. This patriotism is as well displayed when we give our time to the service of our country in a civil as in a military capacity. It is true that it requires a different kind of courage to meet a foe in the deadly strife and carnage of the battle field than it does to meet and contend in a bloodless war of words when the aim is to persuade others to your views. Our friend whom we are now called to mourn, I first met when the General Assembly of 1862 assembled at the capital to begin its session. He was then a young man, but one of great promise. Affable in his bearing, pleasant to all, a generous soul, one that you felt you could trust. Our relations in that assembly were most pleasant. In the work of that assembly he did his part and did it well. Those were stirring and exciting times. That General Assembly had a great work to do. They did that work and I believe did it well. They provided laws by which the State was enabled to collect its taxes and thus enabled it to do its part in putting down the war of the rebellion. In all that work Mr. Mitchell did his part. When the extra session was called in August, 1863, there had so many of the members of the General Assembly enlisted to go to the war that Governor Kirkwood told us that should the necessity arise for him to call an extra session there would not be a quorum left in the State to transact the business. We told him in reply that if we went to the front things would be so conducted that there would be no necessity for an extra session. More than one-half of the members of the House and Senate did go to the war and did service in the army of the United States. That General Assembly had done its work so well that our brave war Governor, Samuel J. Kirkwood, whose

voice I had hoped to hear at this reunion, with his reliance, determination and sterling patriotism, with his feeling that Iowa would do her whole duty in the war to preserve the Union, and with the feeling that he could rely on the people to support him in what was necessary to be done to show the loyalty of its citizens, did not find it necessary to call an extra session of that small assembly to carry forward the grave work of this State in that war. On the field our friend did his duty well.

It has been said that he was a true soldier on the field of battle. He was an Iowa soldier, and that the world over is recognized as saying that he was a brave and true soldier. Iowa soldiers were all brave and true men. Iowa sent out no cowards. Iowa's fair name has no dark shade upon it by reason of the acts of any of her soldiers. Of these men, brave and true as they were, Captain Mitchell stood in the front rank—ever brave, ever true, ever loyal to his country and her cause. Many of you here to-day who have ever seen the luxuriantly furnished rooms in which our present General Assembly does its work and who were in the war of the rebellion, know under how different circumstances a man has to do his duty when in the tented field than in the carpeted hall. Our worthy friend whose life went out so suddenly, showed that he could do his duty well in either place. He was generous, honest and manly in the civil service. He was brave, true and zealous in the military trials. He shrank not from doing his whole duty wherever placed. Who ever met him learned to honor and respect him. I remember to have read in a book that was very ancient when I was young, that it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting, for the living will lay it to heart. It is perhaps good for us that this reunion which, up to that time had been one of greater joy and pleasure, should be thus ended. It tends more forcibly than any other thing could have done to impress on our minds the fact that soon we too must pass over that gulf, across which our friend has now safely gone. We sometimes think it sad to suddenly drop out from among our friends, but I must say for myself that when I am called by that grim messenger, the beckoning of whose finger we none of us can resist, that I hope the time between the tattoo on this side the river, and the reveille on the other may be as short as was his, and I feel that could he have chosen the time to go he would have chosen it as he actually did go. It leaves a most vivid and impressive lesson on our minds, and it commemorates his virtue in a more instructive manner to the living than could otherwise have been done. For his family and friends who remain we may mourn, but for him who has gone, we must feel that he has preceded us by a short time to the brighter and better life beyond.

On motion a committee consisting of W. W. Wilson, R. D. Kellogg, Alfred Hebard, W. S. Dungan, Charles Aldrich, and Justus Clark was appointed to accompany the remains to their home. This impressive service was closed by singing "The Sweet By and By," a most fitting close.

The tribute paid their departed friend in this evening gathering was most graceful, and could only have come from loving hearts

loaded down with grief. To all of them this death has come with a sense of personal loss, and from all a sincere sympathy will go out to the bereaved family in their terrible affliction.

LETTERS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS.

The following cordial letters from absent members were received and will be found of general interest:

SENATOR WILSON.

UNITED STATES SENATE, WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 15, 1886—*Hoyt Sherman, Esq., Chairman, Des Moines.*—DEAR SIR: I give you my thanks for the cordial invitation extended to me to attend a reunion of the surviving members of the Legislatures of Iowa prior to 1867, to be held in the city of Des Moines on Wednesday and Thursday, the 24th and 25th inst. It would be a great gratification to me to accept the invitation to attend on the interesting occasion. It would afford me an opportunity to meet so many of those men who have, in the years gone by, lent their best endeavors to up-building the magnificent commonwealth of which we are so proud. What interesting years those were stretching from territorial condition on down through the wondrous events and developments that occurred between that time and the year 1867! It would be a joy to meet the many workers of those great years who will be present in Des Moines at the coming reunion, but my public duties here are of such character as to render it impossible for me to absent myself for the length of time that would be required to make the journey to Des Moines and return to my station here. I pray you to extend my good wishes to all who may meet on the occasion, and I hope that at some future time circumstances may enable me to meet with them and others on like occasions.

Yours truly,

JAMES F. WILSON.

SENATOR ALLISON.

SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—*Dear Mr. Sherman, Chairman, etc:* Your kind invitation to the reunion of members of the General Assembly received. I regret that I cannot respond affirmatively. As I do not see my way clear to leave Washington for the time necessary to make the journey. Were it not for my public duties here, just now somewhat pressing, I would join you with very great pleasure. I am sure it will be an interesting occasion, and the permanent organization proposed will be productive of much good in many ways. Please convey these regrets to your association, and I am with great respect,

Yours very truly,

W. B. ALLISON.

HON. HOYT SHERMAN, *Des Moines, Iowa.*

HON. J. T. LANE.

DAVENPORT, Ia., Feb. 22, 1886.—*Hon. Hoyt Sherman, Chairman Reunion Committee, Des Moines, Iowa*—DEAR SIR: I have delayed replying to

your invitation of the 6th inst., in hopes that I could advise you definitely whether I could attend the reunion on the 24th and 25th, but as it now appears to me it is extremely doubtful, although I am very desirous of attending, and will be there if it is possible.

Very truly,

JAMES T. LANE.

HON. JOHN A. KASSON.

924 MCPHERSON SQUARE, WASHINGTON, Feb. 12, 1886.—*Hoyt Sherman, Esq., Chairman Committee*—DEAR SIR: I have had the honor to receive to-day your invitation to meet the reunion of the Veteran Legislators of Iowa, at Des Moines, on the 24th of the present month. Most sincerely do I regret my inability to be present. It would be for me one of the pleasantest occasions likely to occur in my experience. But the physical ailment from which I have been suffering for several months still keeps me under medical treatment, and the doctor warns me against the exposure and fatigue involved in the journey home at this season. I would gladly exchange greetings with the old Legislators of Iowa, many of whom were my colleagues in both general assemblies, but it is not now permitted to me. With hearty thanks for the invitation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

JOHN A. KASSON,

Member of the 12th, 13th and 14th General Assemblies of Iowa.

GEN. W. W. BELKNAP.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 19, 1886.—*Hoyt Sherman, Chairman, etc., Des Moines, Iowa*—DEAR SIR: It is with great regret that I am compelled to decline the invitation to attend the reunion of the surviving members of the Legislatures of Iowa prior to 1867, to be held at Des Moines on February 24th and 25th. I remember with pleasure and real affection, those who were with me in the House in 1867, (the Seventh General Assembly) many of whom still living have made their mark in the Congress of the Nation, and many in its armies, while others have given their lives for the Union. I send the greetings of love and continued regard to my fellow members who may be with you, and wish for them a most happy and delightful time.

Very truly yours,

WM. W. BELKNAP.

HON. MORGAN L. MARTIN.

GREEN BAY, Feb. 19, 1886.—*Hon. Hoyt Sherman*—DEAR SIR: As a surviving member of the Territorial Council of Michigan, (comprising Iowa,) held at Detroit in 1834, it would afford great pleasure to meet with those ex-members of the Legislature of your noble State, who are to assemble on the 24th and 25th inst. The infirmities of age must, however, plead my excuse for non-attendance on that occasion. With many thanks for your kind invitation, and greetings to those who may assemble,

I remain very truly,

MORGAN L. MARTIN.

HON. CHARLES B. DARWIN.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Feb. 18, 1886.—*Hon. Hoyt Sherman:* DEAR SIR: I am sorry that overbearing engagements made before the receipt of your note, deny me the power of meeting with so many gentlemen, the acquaintance with whom was so long a perpetual pleasure, and whose memory lives associated with most that remains dear. Please convey to old friends and co-workers my kindest wishes.

Yours,

CHAS. B. DARWIN.

GOV. A. SAUNDERS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 18, 1886.—*Hon. Hoyt Sherman, Chairman Committee:* DEAR SIR: Your kind invitation to attend the reunion of the surviving members of the Legislature of Iowa prior to 1867, to be held on the 24th and 25th instant, has followed me round and has this morning come to hand. I am fearful that I shall not now be able to get off in time to be present at the meeting. I assure you it would be a great treat to me to meet so many of my old political friends as I would hope to see there. Some good and true friends with whom I mingled at the capital in the earlier days have passed over the river, have fallen asleep, and the reflection that I would not meet them would sadden the occasion a good deal. Among them I might name Governors Grimes and Love, and Senators Coolbaugh, Browning, Rankin, Test; Representatives Dewey, McFarland, Hall, Dorland and many others. If I fail to be there, and I now have but little hope of making it, remember that I shall be with you all in spirit, and that I wish for one and all a most pleasant and enjoyable time

ALVIN SAUNDERS.

JUDGE JOHNSTONE.

KEOKUK, IOWA, Feb. 20.—*Hon. B. F. Gue, Des Moines, Iowa:* DEAR SIR: I received your letter of the 19th inst. with circular letter accompanying it, this A. M. I have just returned from St. Louis, where I went to visit an oculist in behalf of one of my eyes, which is seriously affected. In its present condition it would be impossible for me to leave home. I am therefore reluctantly compelled to decline your invitation to the "Reunion of Pioneer Law-Makers at Des Moines on the 24th inst." Hoping that all of the proceedings of that day may be of the most pleasant character, and desiring you to convey to the surviving legislators my kindest regards and best wishes, I remain very truly your friend,

C. WARD JOHNSTONE.

OFFICERS—1886.

PRESIDENT.

John F. Duncombe.....Webster County.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Hawkins Taylor.....Washington, D. C.
 Isaac N. Lewis.....Kohoka, Mo,
 Alfred Hebard.....Montgomery County.
 P. B. Bradley.....Jackson County.
 Samuel Murdock.....Clayton County.
 G. F. Green.....Jackson County.
 Geo. G. Wright.....Polk County.
 John T. Morton.....Topeka, Kansas.
 A. K. Eaton.....Mitchell County.
 H. B. Hendershott.....Wapello County.
 A. H. McCrary.....Lee County.
 J. B. Grinnell.....Poweshiek County.
 W. H. M. Pusey.....Pottawattamie County.
 Norman Boardman.....Clinton County.
 John G. Foote.....Des Moines County.
 T. S. Wilson.....Dubuque County.

SECRETARIES.

Charles Aldrich.....Webster County.
 Ben VanSteenburg.....Jackson County.
 C. S. Wilson.....Polk County.
 J. Scott Richman.....Muscatine County.
 C. C. Nourse.....Polk County.
 Jacob Rich.....Dubuque County.
 H. G. Curtis.....Cass County.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.

Isaac W. Griffith.....Polk County.

PROCEEDINGS AND PAPERS

OF THE

SECOND REUNION

OF THE

PIONEER LAW-MAKERS
OF IOWA,

AT DES MOINES, FEBRUARY 27-29, 1890.

OFFICERS—1890.

PRESIDENT.

Edward Johnstone.....Lee County.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

H. H. Trimble.....Lee County.
 Dr. G. M. Davis.....Clinton County.
 B. B. Richards.....Dubuque County.
 L. L. Ainsworth.....Fayette County.
 John Russell.....Jones County.
 S. K. Cremer.....Wapello County.
 Newton Guthrie.....Warren County.
 L. W. Ross.....Pottawattamie County.
 Samuel Rees.....Webster County.
 R. A. Smith.....Dickinson County.

SECRETARIES.

A. R. Fulton.....Polk County.
 Charles Aldrich.....Hamilton County.
 Ben VanSteenburg.....Jackson County.
 C. S. Wilson, Editor-at-Large.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Geo. G. Wright.....Des Moines, Polk County.
 P. M. Casady.....Des Moines, Polk County.
 B. F. Gue.....Des Moines, Polk County.

CIRCULAR OF INVITATION.

You are cordially invited to meet with us at the Second Reunion of the 'Old Law-Makers of Iowa,' on the 27th and 28th inst. and take part in their deliberations.

Come and renew old friendships and associations, and help to furnish material for the future historian of our great State.

The following distinguished old law-makers have signified their intention to be present and take part in the exercises: Hon. Edward Johnstone, Judge James Grant, Hon. T. S. Wilson, Ex-Senator Geo. W. Jones, Ex-Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood, Judge Samuel Murdock, Hon. Geo. W. McCrary, Major R. D. Kellogg, Hon. W. H. M. Pusey, Hon. J. Scott Richman, Hon. Lewis Todhunter, Rev. I. P. Teter, Hon. J. B. Grinnell and others.

Judge A. R. Fulton will prepare a poem for the occasion.

The Reunion Association will visit the present General Assembly in a body and call on the State officers.

A reception will be given them at the Capitol by the Governor and Ex-Governors of Iowa.

A social Reunion will be held on the evening of the 28th at which five minute speeches will be in order, from every one in attendance.

REDUCED RAILROAD RATES.

In order to obtain the reduced rates the applicant must procure from the ticket agent *at the place of starting* a certificate, paying there full fare to Des Moines. This certificate so obtained from the local ticket agent, must be presented to the proper Secretary of the Reunion at Des Moines to be countersigned by him in order to entitle the holder to the reduction of fare on returning home. The return fare will be one-third of the regular rate. *Be sure and obtain this certificate at the office where you buy your ticket.*

HOTEL RATES.

The charges at the principal hotels will range at from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per day.

All in attendance are requested to come direct from the trains to the parlor of the Aborn House where badges will be furnished, and all information as to hotel accommodations, will be given by the Committee on Reception and Invitation.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO MEMBERSHIP.

All members and officers of Territorial and State Legislatures, Governors and other State officers, United States Senators and Representatives in Congress, who served prior to and including the year 1870; all ex-members and officers of Constitutional Conventions, and Board of Education.

Please let us know by return mail if you will be with us at the Reunion.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| B. F. GUE, | } Committee of |
| GEO. G. WRIGHT, | |
| P. M. CASADY, | |
| | } Arrangements. |

Des Moines, Iowa, February 17th, 1890.

PROGRAMME.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27—MORNING SESSION.

At 10 A. M. the Association will be called to order by the President at the Central Christian Church, Locust street.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

Music by the Choir—" *America.*"

Opening address of President John F. Duncombe of Fort Dodge.

Address of welcome by Hon. George G. Wright of Des Moines.

Address by Hon. T. S. Wilson of Dubuque.

Music.

Address by Ex-Gov. Samuel J. Kirkwood of Iowa City.

Address by Hon. George W. Jones of Dubuque.

Appointment of Committees.

Music by the Choir—" *The Star Spangled Banner.*"

Adjournment to attend the Inauguration Ceremonies at the Capitol.

EVENING SESSION.

Call to order at 7½ P. M.

Reports of Committees.

Inauguration of the New President.

Address by Hon. G. W. McCrary of Kansas City, on "The Old Times and the New."

Music by the Choir—Mrs. Howe's " *Battle Hymn of the Republic.*"

Five minutes extemporaneous speeches by members generally.

Music—" *We are Tenting To-Night on The Old Camp Ground.*"

Adjournment to 10 A. M. Friday.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28—MORNING SESSION.

At 10 A. M.

Address by Hon. W. H. M. Pusey of Council Bluffs; Subject: "The Seventh General Assembly."

Music by the Choir—" *Hail Columbia.*"

Address of Maj. R. D. Kellogg of Decatur; Subject: "The Eighth General Assembly."

Poem by Judge A. R. Fulton.

Music.

Address by Hon. Samuel Murdock of Elkader; Subject: "Early Courts of Iowa."

Letters from absent members, read by the Secretary.

Adjournment to 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Music.

Addresses by Judge James Grant of Davenport and Dr. G. S. Bailey of Van Buren County on the "First Constitutional Convention."

Address by Hon. J. Scott Richman of Muscatine on the "Second Constitutional Convention."

Music.

Address by Hon. Lewis Todhunter of Indianola on the "Third Constitutional Convention."

Reception of the General Assembly and Speeches.

Response by Rev. I. P. Teter of Oskaloosa.

Music by the Choir—"Auld Lang Syne."

PROCEEDINGS OF SECOND REUNION.

MORNING SESSION, FEBRUARY 27, 1890.

At 10 o'clock A. M. the Association was called to order by the president, Hon. John F. Duncombe, of Webster county, at the Central Christian church, Des Moines, Iowa. The session was opened with prayer by Rev. A. H. Ames, of Des Moines, after which the choir sang "America."

ROLL OF MEMBERS.

The Re-union opened with the following named members enrolled:

| NAMES. | COUNTY. | BRANCH OF SERVICE. | YEARS OF SERVICE. | PRESENT ADDRESS. |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Alfred Hebard..... | Des Moines. | House | 1840, etc..... | Red Oak, Iowa. |
| Isaac W. Griffith..... | Lee | House | 1848..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| John Russell..... | Jones . . . | House | 1862-64-66-68-70.. | Onslow, Iowa. |
| L. W. Stuart | Jackson .. | House ... | 1868-69-76..... | Monmouth, Iowa. |
| A. McPherrin..... | Van Buren. | House | 1846-54 | Keosauqua, Iowa. |
| Geo. Schramm..... | Van Buren. | Senate..... | 1852-54..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| S. G. Matson | Linn | House | 1846-47 | Viola, Iowa. |
| P. M. Casady..... | Polk, etc .. | Senate..... | 1848-50..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| B. F. Gue..... | Scott, etc... | House & Senate | 1858 to 1868..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| T. S. Parvin..... | Territory... | Sec. Council... | 1840. | Cedar Rapids, Iowa. |
| J. M. Browne..... | Madison . . | House | 1865-66..... | St. Charles, Iowa. |
| R. D. Kellogg | Decatur | House | 1860-61-62-63..... | Garden Grove, Iowa. |
| Samuel McNutt..... | Muscatine.. | Senate & House | 1864 to 1873 | Muscatine, Iowa. |
| Samuel Murdock.... | Dub'que,etc | House | 1844-6 and 1870.. | Elkader, Iowa. |
| W. S. Hall..... | Dubuque ... | House | 1854-56..... | Onslow, Iowa. |
| L. L. Ainsworth | Fayette | Senate .. | 1860-64..... | West Union. |
| H. W. Peck | Decatur | House | 1868..... | Decatur, Iowa. |
| N. Everson..... | Washington | Senate..... | 1850-52..... | Washington, Iowa. |
| F. M. Knoll..... | Dubuque .. | House & Senate | 1862, etc., 14 yrs. | Sageville, Iowa. |
| R. A. Smith | Emmet, etc. | House | 1868..... | Okoboji, Iowa. |
| Jas. H. Rothrock | Cedar..... | House | 1862..... | Cedar Rapids, Iowa. |
| H. Bracewell..... | Wayne | House | 1860-62..... | Corydon, Iowa. |
| Thos. B. Knapp..... | Hardin. | House | 1866-68..... | Iowa Falls, Iowa. |
| G. M. Davis | Clinton | Senate..... | 1858-60..... | Clinton, Iowa. |
| R. P. Wilson | Lee | House | 1850..... | Numa, Iowa. |
| J. F. Duncombe | Webster.... | House & Senate | 1872-80, 8 years . | Fort Dodge, Iowa. |
| S. S. Farwell | Jones | Senate..... | 1866-68..... | Monticello, Iowa. |
| A. C. Fulton..... | Scott..... | Senate..... | 1854-56..... | Davenport, Iowa. |
| H. G. Day | Emmet, etc. | House | 1870..... | Albert Lea, Minn. |
| Isaac Millburn..... | Linn | House | 1862..... | |
| J. H. Powers | Howard etc. | Senate..... | 1860..... | |
| Wm. P. Wolf | Cedar | Senate & House | 1864. etc..... | Tipton, Iowa. |

ROLL OF MEMBERS—CONTINUED.

| NAMES. | COUNTY. | BRANCH OF SERVICE. | YEARS OF SERVICE. | PRESENT ADDRESS. |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| R. S. Finkbine | Johnson | House | 1864-66..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| S. K. Cremer | Wapello | House | 1858-60..... | Agency City, Iowa. |
| B. B. Richards | Dubuque.... | Senate & House | 1864, etc., 10 yrs. | Dubuque, Iowa. |
| Elwood Lindley | Dallas | House | 1864 | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| A. S. Faville | Mitchell | House | 1870..... | Osage, Iowa. |
| W. Galland.. | Lee | House | 1864..... | Ft. Madison, Iowa. |
| C. S. Wilson..... | | House | 1866..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| A. R. Fulton | Jefferson ... | House | 1855-68..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Charles Aldrich | Hamilton .. | House | 1860, etc..... | Webster City, Iowa. |
| Charles Weare..... | Linn | House | 1864..... | Cedar Rapids, Iowa. |
| P. P. Henderson | Warren | Senate | 1860..... | Indianola, Iowa. |
| M. A. Dashiell | Warren..... | Senate & House | 1868, etc..... | Indianola, Iowa. |
| Alonzo Abernethy.... | Fayette ... | House | 1866..... | Osage, Iowa. |
| Newton Guthrie..... | Warren..... | House | 1862..... | Hartford, Iowa. |
| S. V. Gore | Marion | House | 1864..... | Pleasantville, Iowa. |
| J. P. Teter..... | Keokuk .. | Senate..... | 1861..... | Oskaloosa, Iowa. |
| Geo. G. Wright..... | Van Buren.. | Senate..... | 1848-50..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Wm. Sanderson..... | Scott..... | House | 1864..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Owen Bromley..... | Jefferson ... | House | 1864..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| J. S. Maxwell | Clinton | House | 1862..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Lewis Todhunter.... | Warren..... | Const. Con..... | 1857..... | Indianola, Iowa. |
| Nicholas Baylies | Polk | House | 1864..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Edward Johnstone.... | Lee | House | 1839-40..... | Keokuk, Iowa. |
| Geo. W. Jones..... | Polk | House .. | 1870..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| J. Selman | Davis | Const. Con..... | 1846..... | Bloomfield, Iowa. |
| John Meyer..... | Jasper | Senate & House | 1862, etc..... | Newton, Iowa. |
| Ben Van Steenburg .. | Jackson | Clerk and Sec'y | 1866, etc..... | Preston, Iowa. |
| P. B. Bradley | Jackson | House & Senate | 1848, etc..... | Andrew, Iowa. |
| Geo. F. Green..... | Jackson | House & Senate | 1854, etc..... | Miles, Iowa. |
| John Hilsinger..... | Jackson | Senate..... | 1866-68..... | Sabula, Iowa. |
| J. F. Hopkins | Boone | House | 1870..... | Madrid, Iowa. |
| H. H. Trimble..... | Davis | Senate | 1856-60..... | Keokuk, Iowa. |
| Thomas Mitchell | Polk | House | 1858..... | Mitchellville, Iowa. |
| Hoyt Sherman..... | Polk | House | 1866..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| John Mitchell..... | Polk | House | 1862..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| James C. Jordan..... | Polk | Senate..... | 1854-56..... | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Ed. Wright | Cedar | House | 1856, etc .. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| N. W. Rowell..... | Union | House | 1868..... | Afton, Iowa. |
| Green S. Clark..... | Marion | House | 1854, etc..... | Pella, Iowa. |
| L. R. Bolter..... | Harrison ... | House & Senate | 1866, etc..... | Logan, Iowa. |

W. S. Hall, of Jones county: I move that at the next meeting of this convention the members of the different Assemblies, territorial and state, be requested to be seated together, reserving seats in front for our lady friends, if there be any present, and have the members and officers of the territorial legislatures just behind them, and so on. It will renew the friendships of forty and fifty years ago.

Motion carried.

Then followed the address of the President, Hon. John F. Duncombe, as follows:

Gentlemen of the Old Law Makers' Association of Iowa:

Since our last meeting another four years have been numbered with the dead past. All the events of that time have been unchangeably written in the great book of history. The rulers of the nations of the earth have been in constant activity, scheming for more power, seeking for larger possessions and larger fields in which to gratify ceaseless ambition. The priest and the

the preacher, the lawyer and the doctor, the moral philosopher and the scientist, the possessor of millions of wealth and the ragged beggar have, each in his sphere of action, done his work, and the character and quality of that work is absolutely unchangeable. The true statesman has honestly studied and labored for the best interest of the people of his own well beloved country, while the dishonest politician has, with equal vigilance and no less labor, sought to rise to a higher place by corruption and debauchery. The great struggle between capital and labor has been going on unceasingly, and the cry of each for four years as in all past time, has been for—not happiness but more money. Forms of government have been changed, and in one instance, at least, an honored king has withdrawn from his country, and his subjects have founded a new government of the people, by the people, for the people. A constant revision has been going on and the four years past have been no exception.

The world has revised its theories of electricity, of light, of sound. Revision has not spared our hymnals, our creeds, our New Testament or our religious ideas. Revision has been the watchword in our laws, in our political platforms and doctrines. Revision in form, in style, in subject matter, has seized upon the mighty press, until our daily metropolitan journals are great books of theology, law, medicine, political economy, logic, poetry, science, news, history, and all else that the human brain has ever thought of, or that human language can describe.

Theologians have discussed theology, and have proposed and formulated new creeds, have contended for new constructions of the Bible, and judges have sent forth hundreds of volumes of opinions, and other lawyers have written hundreds of volumes of law books, while writers of fancy and fiction have flooded the world with imaginary scenes of happiness and woe, kindness and cruelty, beauty and ugliness, and yet the same ceaseless activity with still increasing force moves on over the restless ocean of time.

We too, my friends, have been carried along in this great whirlpool of life. We too, have been parties to some of the many transactions of the four years last past. We have during that time made a part of this book of history. We have had our joys and our afflictions: We have rejoiced and we have wept. We have visited the houses of gayety and pleasure, and of sadness and sorrow. Some of us have seen our own homes made desolate by death, while others have been blessed with the new life of a new generation.

A few of our number since our last meeting have passed over the silent river. At that meeting we were admonished of the uncertainty of life, by seeing Judge Mitchell, one of our own loved companions, in our presence, after delivering a beautiful address, fall down before us and die, surrounded by those who had been his friends and companions for many years. To him and those who have lived the life of the good and pure, such a death brings no terrors. Change has impressed its mark on all of us. Our faces are a little more wrinkled than when we last met. The silver locks of increasing age have changed us somewhat, but let us rejoice that those of us who are present here to-day, have still light and joyous hearts; that we have refused to join the great army or unhappy growlers, and that we are getting better and happier every day as we approach the land of golden hope. We have come here to renew old friendships—to call back the pleasant memories of the past, and for a few hours to live over some of the most delightful portions of

of our lives. In recollection to fight over our battles, as a quarter of a century ago, we struggled with the intricate problems of how to save the country; how to enact more just and perfect laws than ever had been or ever could be enacted; how to lay the foundation of our grand state so deep and solid that our laws would be perpetual; how to so contend, so argue, so vote, so make a record, that we should be admired and honored by all future generations. To so perform our work that no future legislature would need to do anything but organize and pass appropriation bills.

While we failed in some of these noble ambitions, we need not fail here at this time to have a season of genuine pleasure, and a good old-fashioned jolly time. And to this end may we one and all give our best efforts, and if we do, this, like our last meeting, will be one of the bright spots in memory when decay shall do its perfect work and earth shall cease to interest us. And to each of you, my friends, let me say,

And if the passing clouds of care
Have cast their shadows o'er thy face,
They have but left, triumphant there,
A holier charm, more witching grace.

And if thy voice hath sunk a tone,
And sounds more sadly than of yore,
It hath a sweetness all its own,
Methinks I never marked before.

The address was frequently interrupted by cheers.

The President was followed by an address of welcome by Hon. Geo. G. Wright, as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

To me has been assigned the very pleasant duty of welcoming all present and to come, to this second reunion of the "Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa," including in this designation, U.S. senators, members of congress, governors and State officers, members and officers of Territorial and State assemblies, prior to and including 1870, as also of the three Constitutional Conventions and Boards of Education.

I bid you a most cordial welcome. By my order and that of all the people, you are entitled to and are hereby given the freedom of the city. You can go where and as you please—if you don't see what you want, ask for it, and if possible it shall be forthcoming, as far as consistent with the prohibitory law and without regard to "age, race, color, or previous conditions and servitude!" If there be those, and there may be, who should be taken out of this general privilege, they will be warned from time to time, and placed under the eagle eye and watchful care of our chaplain or some one else alike capable and discreet! And still for all I say welcome, thrice welcome, and let this be for you, for the citizens of this Capital City, for all the people of the State, an occasion never to be forgotten, one long to be remembered for its happy associations and memories, and the great good accomplished for that State of which we are all justly proud.

In this as in all ages of progress we estimate only by comparison.

On this 27th day of February, in the year of grace 1890, I meet and welcome you not in the old Zion church at Flint Hills, as in 1838-40.

I welcome you not to a few hamlets and in the frame (Butler) building at Iowa City, nor in the old Stone Capitol, in my opinion among the most symmetrical in the State, where in crowded quarters we made, declared and executed our laws until 1858. Nor to Raccoon Forks, Fort Des Moines, in the then temporary brick structure furnished by the liberality of our citizens, but to a city of 60,000 people, to State quarters without superior in any of the 42—with churches and school houses and all the evidences of an active, intelligent and royal citizenship—all attesting the thrift, energy, enterprise, growth and development of our people.

I welcome some of you, as I know most joyfully to old and yet new scenes and memories. In the year 1854, that man of big brain, strong intellect, marvelous all around capacity, James W. Grimes, was made Governor of Iowa. Since then some of you “long (for 35 years) have sought and mourned because you found it not,” the installation of a Democrat in that high place. And as that event occurs to-day, you have cause for rejoicing as members of one of the great parties of the Nation. I congratulate you without stopping to inquire whether it tends to show, by comparison, advancement or otherwise of the State.’ As we lawyers (*curia advisare vult*). But this aside.

I welcome you not to a Territory or State with few people, small towns and cities without church spires or school buildings, but to scenes and surroundings hopefully and pleasantly otherwise.

Comparison. Seeking a home and stepping on to the ferry-boat at Burlington, on a September day in 1840, I asked what is the population of your territory? The answer was, about 40,000. I inquired again in 1850, and the answer was, less than 200,000. Go to the capitol now and ask the Secretary of State what is our population, and he will answer 2,000,000, for Iowa has increased, thanks to her soil, climate, good laws, good officers and good beginnings under the care of those now around me and their compeers, at least 40,000 each year.

I welcome you, not in times when on horseback or foot, or in the old coaches of “Frink & Walker” or “Western Stage Company,” you made your slow and almost never-ending approach to halls of legislation and courts of justice, with drivers’ horns announcing your approach to various little stations, at some of which you took your meals, consisting of rich golden buscuit, swimming islands of fat and lean bacon, hammer proof eggs, coffee, hardly the “nectar of the gods,” helping digestion, both before and after, by a good supply of prime or poor whisky at a picayune a glass (doubtless there were some who thus indulged without reference to meals).

Comparison. Old stage coach, nine inside and four on top: “How far to Des Moines, and how long the drive?” “Sixteen miles, and I can make it in five hours if my horses hold out and the bottom of the road does not give way.” That was at Apple Grove (Mitchell’s), in 1854.

“How far to Des Moines and how long the run?” “Twenty miles and we will make it in forty-five minutes for my coaches run over a track of steel, drawn by a horse of steam.” That was this morning at Indianola.

I do not welcome you to the capital of a state without a history, but one replete with all that learning can embellish, good laws adorn, able men illustrate, and a patriotism and devotion to the Union unsurpassed by any whether east or west, north or south. In a little more than a half century—1838-1890—how great our progress, how marvelous our growth. And

pertinent to my comparison how great this change from 1846 to 1861. If asked, what is the supreme achievement of civilization, I would answer, in the language of another "the substitution of arguments for arms, of an unarmed judge for a military commander, of the voice of justice for the edict of force;" and this for the nation as well as the individual. But neither in this chosen land of unequaled moral and religious influences, nor in others, have we reached this supreme and much desired condition, for force, the military commander, arms, still walk the earth and we are too apt to measure patriotism, devotion to our institutions and danger or safety to state or nation, by the numerical strength of the people, and their promptness or otherwise in responding to a call to arms as the occasion may demand. Thus measured how proud our history, the history of that State for which you legislated and labored, in which history you took so prominent a part and for which the present and future generations owe you a debt never to be paid.

Comparison (one I have often used). Standing on the steps of the old capitol at Iowa City your chief executive inquired how many men can Iowa furnish to resent the insult offered our flag by a neighboring republic? The answer was, *one company*, perhaps *two*. That was in 1846-7, in the war with Mexico. 1861-5 our grand old Governor (Kirkwood) asked, how many men can Iowa furnish to wipe out the Sumter insult, and the answer came up from prairie and woodland, shop and store, farm and office, 83,000; and if need be, thrice that number, "for the affections of Iowa, like the rivers of her borders, flow to inseparable union," and she now and always swears, "that though all things else perish the Union and constitution shall live." The result you know. For to-day the flag of forty-two stars floats unchallenged from ocean to ocean, from the snowy mountains of the north to the iceless gulf of the south, and never again let us hope in all our borders, are we to hear the one time heresy that this is a "League, not a Nation," nor that other, still worse heresy, "that the constitution is a charter of *death*, not of *life*."

But these things are of the past. And yet in such a State, with a history so proud, with such growth and prosperity, in this its capital, I welcome you. I could not well perform this duty in one justly of greater pride, nor to another body of men more truly entitled to a state's gratitude, nor those having more certainly the love and affection of a grateful, law-abiding and admiring people. Again, and finally, you are very welcome.

Hon. T. S. Parvin: Mr. President, I am anticipating that this will prove a business session, and to relieve our secretary I move the appointment of two assistant secretaries, Mr. C. S. Wilson and Mr. Ben Van Steenburg.

Motion carried.

Soprano solo by Mrs. Bromley—"Annie Laurie," which elicited enthusiastic applause.

President: Next in order is an address by Governor Kirkwood. I desire to say that Governor Kirkwood was invited to address the association and accepted the invitation. I presume there is not

present a single person but deeply regrets that on account of his sudden illness, of which we received notice last evening by dispatch, we are prevented from listening to the voice of one who in the affairs of the State of Iowa deserves great honor, great credit, and has the love and respect of all the citizens of the State of Iowa [applause]. I hope that some gentleman will respond, and I have thought of suggesting among the many that I here see present Hon. B. B. Richards, of Dubuque. Mr. Richards, will you please come forward and give us an address as one of us?

REMARKS OF EX-SENATOR RICHARDS.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would not have been more astonished if I had been told I was to be translated, and surely before such an audience as this you could not accept any poor words that I might have at command on the instant in place of an address from one so able who had prepared for the occasion. But I am glad of the opportunity to tell you, citizens of Des Moines and old legislators, how my heart was attached to my old friends of almost, yes, more than a quarter of a century gone by. Time has indeed changed them, but they are the same manly, cordial, friendly men that they were twenty-five years ago. The changes that the twenty-five years have wrought are, indeed, very many, and many of them very sad; but it is not an occasion to dwell upon that. Death comes to us all. It is as natural to die as it is to live. Thank God that so many of us are able to be here to-day in health and review the transactions of twenty-five, thirty or forty years.

I have been exceedingly interested in what we have heard from the President, and particularly what we have heard from our Judge Wright, who made, to my mind, an exceedingly happy address. It is easy for us as Americans, when we remember how wisely our fathers built, wiser than they knew, and when we see the growth from three millions to sixty millions, to count mathematically, that presently there will be in this great land more people than in all Europe. What force, moral or physical, will such a people exert in the near future. When we remember that public opinion is stronger in most lands, in all civilized lands, even in the land of the Czar, than armies, what force will two hundred and fifty or three hundred millions of such people as America produces exercise upon the governments of earth? The philosophic man says, how is it that America has been able to take in the diverse elements that have come to our shores in such swarms, what solvent has she to mould them into self-respecting, intelligent, upright American citizens? This, to my mind, is the most wonderful thing that America has done. Our enemies have prophesied all manner of evil from it, and we have suffered no little evil in the great cities where these swarms would go before they are Americanized to be the tools of demagogues, and to make bad rule in the great cities of America. But in the country at large we have a solvent that has made the boy of the immigrant of to-day an American citizen scarcely different from the descendants of the pilgrim himself. And how has this been done? Many forces are at work; many of them we could not

enumerate, but of all the influences to make out of these diverse elements, out of Celt and Saxon, out of Roman Catholic and Protestant, out of Hebrew and Greek, one mass, with one aim, and with one type of citizenship, in my judgment, nothing can compare with the influence of the common schools of America. [Applause.] The boy of the fresh immigrant joins the boy whose great-great-grandfather dated back to New England; they read together the same book, they hear the same lessons, they study together, they play together, their hopes and aims as boys are the same. They separate, and they are both American citizens; they remember each other as school fellows, and each is alike anxious for the triumph of the flag and for the perpetuation of the constitution. [Applause.] It is his country—no longer a foreign land. And certainly down in the pages of history there never was a case in all the former time when such a transformation has taken place from ignorance to intelligence, from the violent creed hates, race hates of the old world to be blended into one common mass of intelligent American citizens.

Travelers in America say your land is tiresome; it is full of monotony; I see your great plains; your mountains are so far apart that they scarcely relieve the terrible monotony of America. Your cities are substantially all alike; your people are on a dead level; one man has the same rights as the other man. But O, my fellow-citizens, even if there is something of truth in this statement, would we exchange for aristocratic Europe, where cast obtains, where the struggles are so hard to get recognition of the people at large, are we not happy even if there be something of monotony? Are we not happy in having parted company from these religious hates, race hates, caste hates, where the most of the people have been struggling against adversity; have we not made happy exchange to get rid of that, even if we get monotony where all men are equal and where in this equality we find the strength and glory of the nation? [Applause.] It is the first time in history where the people have really ruled and intelligently ruled, and given shape to the government.

Now, in this regard, old legislators, Iowa has cut no inconspicuous figure. She is quoted as one of the best types of American States. No large cities for corrupting influence and intelligent people spreading over a beautiful plain, all substantially equal in wealth, in position. It is a land of small farms and villages, and of intelligent, worthy women and worthy men, and it is typical of the American nation, and one of the proudest of the stars in the flag. [Applause.]

I was not invited here to take all your time. I have expressed my gratification; I will renew it at meeting you all, and I will now relieve your patience. [Applause.]

President: Next in order is an address by Hon. Geo. W. Jones, of Dubuque. It was expected that without fail Gen. Jones would be here present to address us. He is the first living United States Senator from the State of Iowa. He is a man who in the early history of our country, when this State of Iowa was a part of what was called the Michigan Territory, and Wisconsin was connected with it, took part in the struggles, in the Indian Wars, and in the various acts which disturbed the country during a long period of time. I

presume there is no man in the State of Iowa to-day who is more familiar with the history and growth of our State than Gen. Jones. I presume there is no man living to-day who has done more in the early history of our State to build up our State and give her a standing among the great States of this nation. Now bordering on ninety years of age—I don't remember his exact age—it would have been a great pleasure to us to have listened to him at this time in an address, recounting many of these things which to younger men are exceedingly interesting. But we are doomed to disappointment. He cannot be with us. His age, and the condition of the weather, altogether have prevented it. But I have thought that it would not be inappropriate under such state of facts as this to select some gentleman who was a representative of the old territorial times, and with that view, I call upon Ex-Senator Hebard, of Red Oak, to deliver us an address at this time.

HON. ALFRED HEBARD'S ADDRESS.

Mr. President —When I entered this hall, I said to myself, why this gathering? No constitutional requirement has brought us together, no statutory enactment has made it our duty to be here. Then why? It is a day of very great social activity. You can scarcely take up a paper in which you do not find accounts of the movings and the doings of guilds, and creeds, and sects, and organizations, almost numberless—aside from private ends sometimes had in view. They fill the welkin with boisterous demonstration, with rejoicings and good cheer. If so, why may there not be a quiet gathering of those whose life work has been in some degree identical with a grand, civil and political development, which is almost without historic parallel? I believe in fact I might drop the word, almost, and risk positive assertion without fear of gainsay or question. The single, simple fact, that a commonwealth of two millions of people, very generally in an enviable condition of culture and independence, read their whole history, within a period running back a little more than a single generation, seems akin to the marvelous, yet such is the fact. It is a bare half century since enterprise first crossed the father of waters on our eastern border, and commenced her busy work under circumstances as primitive as primitive could be. Camping in the groves that fringed the water-courses, our pioneers lived in cabins made of logs, uncleaned of their bark, with doors made of split clap-boards, and greased paper for windows: Nothing daunted, they saw promise ahead and willing hearts and working hands wasted no time. A common interest at once suggested rules to govern their intercourse, and neighborhood organizations enforced those rules under the name of "Club Law." No reports are on record, but memory to this day endorses the prompt and just decisions of those early times. Very soon kindred circumstances begat kindly, social relations, and no new comer, when ready to raise his rude cabin home, failed to find strong hands ready and willing to give him the needful lift. Then followed the simple spread of coffee and good cheer, more enjoyable than any royal banquet, or any fashionable luncheon that modern society con-

trives. Without indulging in much detail, I gladly refer to those initial times, because, like days of our childhood, the pleasanter scenes are held in memory, while the sharper angles of early experience have been rounded off or entirely forgotten. Early life in a new country is a struggle. Those who have known it by experience do not wish to know it again, and only those who have experienced it fully appreciate it. An old Latin proverb says "Labor conquers everything." It had its verification in the early settlers of Iowa; courage and persevering industry overcame difficulties and started them on a career of success, which has had but little interruption from that day to this, and the people of the State find themselves to-day where they are and what they are. I shall not follow the progressive steps of our advance, as I hope to hear others dwell more or less upon them. Our condition to-day is, and ought to be, a proud one. We would use no high sounding adjectives, no self extolling phrases, but we take pride in believing that we have attained unto a condition of material prosperity, and intelligent civilization, which rank us high among our elder sister states.

I would not undervalue material things. We beat the world in corn and cattle and the world knows it, and that is all I wish to say on that point. There are other things of value in this wide world besides those which can be measured in a half bushel or weighed on a Fairbanks scale—something else beside material products to clothe and feed us. The individual or the community that makes no distinction between mind and matter, that neglects the former and panders to the latter, never can rise above the lowest plane of life. Physical wants come first and their relief is a prerequisite for attainment in higher intellectual life, and for this end, if the Creator had given us the choice of all the lands he had made, we could not have made a selection preferable to the one Providence has assigned us. It is located in that belt of latitude that has thus far nursed and nurtured the energy, the activity, the push and progress of the world. It has a soil not *generally* of great productive capacity, but universally so—not a single acre between the great rivers, save the wash of some water course, or possibly some precipitous bluff, but is capable of becoming a garden of profit and pleasure. There is not a mountain, not a hill even, in the State to subtract a single rod from the great productive area. Valleys there are and beautiful ones to, eroded by the action of our streams and separated by intervening divides that only reach in their elevation the common level, thus securing perfect drainage without a foot of waste. No tedious monotony tires the eye of the traveler across our State. A succession of valleys and divides—the former in their placid beauty, and the latter ever varied by graceful contours of surface—furnish pictures of beauty at almost every stage. So far as our earthly homes are concerned we are certainly a favored people compared with any others past or present. Range this earth from pole to pole, go with the sun around its central circle, read the history of our race from Eden down to the dawn of this beautiful day now shining around us—search and examine—and then say, what the age, or where the land wherein mankind e'er had heritage like ours? The question to-day is, what have we done with this beautiful heritage entrusted to our keeping?

Have thorns and thistles disfigured its surface? Has moral pestilence stained its atmosphere? Has there been no advance since the roaming of

the Red Man? Let the free wings of the wind bring the answer from every nook and corner.

Opportunities have not been thrown away or trodden under foot. The inspiration of the age in which we live, has not been without effect, carrying us forward at least *pari passu* with the rest of the world, if not in some respects, in advance. It is claimed that we excel, not only in production, but in the facilities of inter-communication, as well as in the culture of the masses. I think I might add the care of the helpless unfortunates among us. At an early day some good angel spread his wings over our people and touched their hearts with motives which led them to regard this class as fellow beings, as entitled not only to sympathy and a share in the material comforts of life, but to any and all instrumentalities designed in any way to ameliorate their sad condition. As a consequence, we find them to-day occupying ten palatial homes within the borders of our State. If the deaf and dumb do not learn to talk, some do, and more might. If the blind, born to eternal night, are not made to see with the physical eye, their minds are enlightened and trained to reason, and their ears filled with music, so that life to them is by no means a blank. If those from whom reason has flown away do not again wear countenances of joy, their sad condition is relieved by all that tenderness and care can do. Wayward youth are trained to better ways, and even the destitute feeble-minded child, instead of being left to suffer till relieved by death, like a wounded bird in the forest, finds among us a nursery home of comfort and tender care. Heavy as the expense is, no murmur is heard, unless for extravagance or breach of trust. Questions of morals and questions of culture I pass by, for I wish to be brief, only stating that the latter cannot be neglected, when reports show an expenditure of nearly \$700,000 the last year for support of schools. Morals and culture are closely interrelated and improve or decline together. To properly construct a social and political fabric, that will encourage the right and restrain the wrong, that will keep in harmony the thousand and one delicate interrelations of social life, guarding all and infringing none, is a task too great for any one mortal man.

We borrow our laws from predecessors and adapt them to our use, just as they in their turn had done before, and so for ages back, even unto the days of the Decalogue, so that law after all is a growth of continued history, and now it is our turn to write our chapter and add it to that history, and what shall be the temper, the tone, and general characteristics of our contribution?

Charles the First believed in one man, and that man was himself, not responsible to any one, but holding his fellow man in the hollow of his hand, and claiming the absolute right to dispose of him at his pleasure, even to the sacrifice of life, limb and property. Cromwell, though born and reared in kingly times, did not agree with his king, and the consequence was King Charles disappeared and most of his cruel doctrines with him, and though monarchy was again restored, it has been limited to a degree that has destroyed its worst features. But a growing sentiment led many to believe that monarchies, limited or unlimited, were useless, costly adornments anywhere, and in our country we have boldly proclaimed it.

We believe in the oft repeated saying that everybody knows more than anybody, that everybody has more right than anybody, that everybody has more capacity and is more trustworthy than anybody. Individual efforts, however honest, always show individual idiosyncracies. Not so with the many. Hence, we believe that the Creator, instead of commissioning any one man to act as his vicegerent, has given credentials to all honest men to share in the government of which they are themselves the subjects. Hence, the Democratic system to which we all cling as a sheet anchor of our hopes. All men are naturally honest, but some require favoring circumstances of development. Bad as some have made themselves, I do not believe the Creator was ever cruel enough to place a responsible being in this world without giving him in his interior being some saving element capable of being polished into a shining jewel, and it is the province of education, not only to develope and improve the better qualities of mind and heart among our fellow beings generally, but to sieze upon and fan into life the faintest spark of hope found among the lowliest. Then will average humanity be raised to a higher plane, and that consensus of human thought coming from enlightened human minds, will be for all a grand, fundamental and reliable law. Such an education is worthy the solicitude of every loyal citizen—no grander problem commends itself to our attention.

Those of us who have passed the meridian of life, or possibly the usual limit of life, ought to be wiser and better men than we were a score of years ago, or else we have lived in vain and experience has taught us nothing. With our every movement we touch our fellow men, and with every touch there is a subtile unconscious impression; it tells for help or it tells for hurt, it tells to encourage or it tells to dishearten. Example, manner and habit are effectual teachers, and these must be our methods. Hold fast to high ideals, they stimulate exertion and lead to noble deeds, they sustain us in the performance of duty while we tread the downward grade of declining years, and save us at last from the sorrow and shame of leaving behind us selfish, useless lives. We, the first generation permitted to make our homes in this beautiful State, will leave behind us no such repulsive record. Rather do we write our story both of war and peace on the folds of a proudly waving banner and float it to the breeze, believing it will have the endorsement of a consenting world.

A POEM.

Ex-Governor Gue: I hold in my hand a little gem of poetry inscribed to the Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa, by Mrs. John S. Briggs, daughter-in-law of the late Governor Briggs. I will hand it to the Secretary to read.

The Secretary read the following poem:

[Most respectfully inscribed to the Pioneer Law-makers of the State of Iowa, by Mrs. John S. Briggs, daughter-in-law of the late Gov. Ansel Briggs.]

“ EVERY YEAR.”

BY MARY E. BRIGGS.

Steadily the ages sow,
 Every year;
 Youth and old age come and go,
 Every year;
 Philosophize as we may,
 'Tis sowing and reaping every day,
 New buds and blooms of hope decay,
 Every year.

Buoyant youth sows fertile soil
 Every year;
 Gathering crops by honest toil.
 Every year;
 Youth to manhood's reign departs,
 Taking something from our hearts
 And piercing us with cruel darts,
 Every year.

Seeds of truth and right are sown,
 Every year;
 Sharper leaves from tougher roots,
 Through misery's bitter weeds upshoots,
 To crown life's cup with blighted fruits,
 Every year.

Seeds of affliction purify
 Every year;
 Virtue blooms to testify
 Every year;
 Though nature does not frown,
 Many will their growth disown,
 And madly beat them down,
 Every year.

Fame may wreath her laurels fair
 Every year;
 Bring golden grain from sun and air
 Every year;
 “ False foundation, broken reed!”
 Who ever prospered that to thee gave heed?
 Who vainly wastes on thee will not speed.
 Every year.

Welcome Liberty, free born flower,
 Every year;
 Where dwells a breath, a tone, a power,
 Every year;
 'Tis not a bud of foreign land,
 For sowing may take with a liberal hand,
 Seeds perennial for a future band.
 Every year.

God bless our native land,
 Every year.
 Guard by Heaven's protecting hand,
 Every year;
 And make our rulers see
 That men should brothers be,
 And form one family,
 Every year.

Fair Haven Hill, North Omaha, Neb.

At the conclusion of the reading, on motion a vote of thanks was tendered to Mrs. Briggs for the fine poem sent.

Hon. L. W. Ross, of Pottawattamie, presented the following resolution, which was adopted by unanimous vote:

Resolved, That we deeply regret the absence of General Jones and Governor Kirkwood, and we hereby tender to them our acknowledgment of the good work wrought by them for this commonwealth, and earnestly request that they furnish to this association copies of their addresses for publication and preservation.

Gov. Gue: I suppose that the members of this association are aware that four years ago, when we held our first reunion, it was such an enjoyable occasion that every member wished to make it a permanent organization. The sad death of Judge Mitchell, who was addressing us, caused our adjournment in confusion, but we had gone so far as to provide that this should be a permanent organization, that its meetings should be once in four years, that the officers of each meeting should be elected to hold for the term of four years. I move that a committee of five be appointed by the chair to select the names of suitable persons to act as officers of this association for four years, and that that committee be instructed to report this evening.

Motion carried.

The President appointed Governor B. F. Gue, ex-Senator Samuel McNutt of Muscatine, ex-Senator F. M. Knoll of Dubuque, ex-Senator S. S. Farwell of Jones, and ex-Senator P. M. Casady of Polk, as that committee.

Music by the choir, "Star Spangled Banner."

It was moved by Mr. Russell that a committee of three be appointed to invite the legislature, the Governor and staff, and Lieutenant-Governor to meet with the association during the session Friday afternoon. The motion was carried, and the President appointed John Russell, L. L. Ainsworth and L. W. Ross as that committee.

Here the meeting adjourned until 7:30 to-night.

EVENING SESSION, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2890.

Meeting called to order by the president.

Duet by Mrs. Bromley and Miss Lawton.

T. S. Parvin offered the following preamble and resolution:

WHEREAS, By reason of long neglect and indifference on the part of our former authorities and our citizens, many valuable records, pamphlets and other documents have either been destroyed, lost or gathered into public libraries abroad; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Pioneer Lawmakers of Iowa in session that the general Assembly be earnestly invited and urged to take immediate steps to collect and preserve all documents written or printed pertaining to the history of the Territory and State of Iowa.

Mr. Parvin: I would like to say a word or two upon this resolution. About a year ago I undertook to write a history of the Constitutional Conventions of Iowa of 1844, 1846 and 1857. I remember I had originally duplicate copies of the Journals of 1844 and 1846, that I placed in the library of the State here in Des Moines; they had the Journal of 1857. I also placed with the Historical Society a second copy, supposing I had yet a third left. When I progressed in my history so far as to reach 1846, I found I did not have it. I then wrote to the Librarian of the State, to the Governor and Secretary of State to borrow a copy, when lo, the Journal of 1846 could not be found in the library. It might seem like exaggeration, but I have written to the 104 surviving members of those two conventions, to their friends and families where deceased, without securing a single copy of that Journal, and I know of but two copies in the entire State of Iowa, and they cannot be had for love or money. And yet that is the Journal of the convention which adopted the constitution upon which Iowa was admitted into the Union. I have suspended my work in the hope that I might get possession of a copy that I could control myself.

Again, I had occasion to write the history of the three capitals of Iowa, Burlington, Iowa City and Des Moines. I knew full well as an old settler, that the governor had issued his proclamation by which the legislature had been convened in Iowa City. I have written to the Executive of Iowa and the Secretary of State for a copy of the proclamation, and it is not on file in the office to-day. I knew, as an editor of a paper at that time, that I had published it, and so I commenced to search page after page until I found it published in the paper of that day.

Here are two essentially valuable documents upon which the history of Iowa largely depends, and yet they are not in the possession of the State

Library for the departments of this State. These things, and I might mention many others incidental to it, show most conclusively to my mind that we have been too long neglectful of the vital interests of our history; we cannot too soon amend that matter and remedy it as far as possible, and it is for this purpose that I have offered the resolution in the hope that it might go up to the Capitol on the other side of the river and meet a hearty response from the legislature now in session, and remedy in part the difficulty under which we have so long labored.

Ex-Governor Gue: I arise to second most cordially the motion made by my friend, Mr. Parvin. He is one of the most industrious of the historians of the State of Iowa. He has done more writing and made more efforts to preserve the early history of the State of Iowa than all of the State outside of him combined. I know that is a broad statement to make, but I know it to be a fact. I have been engaged, as some of you know, in the last five years, in trying to write a history of Iowa. I have looked over the documents preserved and presented without cost and without price, by Theodore S. Parvin to the State of Iowa, to make up our public records that the public officers had not seen fit to gather. I know he has contributed volume after volume to make up a collection that should belong to the State of Iowa. There are ninety-nine counties in the State of Iowa, seventy of which have had their histories written, and when I came to look in the State Library to find the histories of the counties there were only thirty-five there. I had to go to Madison, Wis., to the great historical library, to procure data for the history of Iowa, and spent weeks there in that library which has ten times the history of Iowa that is in the capitol on the hill. It is time we were taking steps to remedy this great neglect. We have lost years of valuable time. Time is sinking into the graves the men who have this history in their heads. We want a record of that we have lost year after year when no record has been left with the exception of a little from such men as Theodore S. Parvin and Judge Nourse. We are the body that should make this demand on the legislature. Some of our writers have called attention repeatedly to this gross neglect on the part of our State. The young men who are controlling the legislature of this State seem to know nothing of the history of the past. They do not seem to think that Iowa had a history worth preserving.

As men who founded the institutions that have made this a great State, we have a right to speak and a right to demand, in the language of Mr. Parvin, that some steps be taken now at once by this legislature to save what can be saved where so much has been lost. When I come to look up the history of the most gallant achievement, the most heroic achievement in the State of Iowa—I know it is a good deal to say, but I say it without hesitation—the Spirit Lake expedition, when I come to look for the documents in the vault in the Capitol at Des Moines, the report of Maj. Williams, the seventy-year-old commander who marched up there in the dead of winter at the risk of his life, cannot be found to-day in the records of the State of Iowa. And this is only one sample of the deficiency of that department. I have strong feeling in this matter because if we ever collect the data of the history of Iowa so it can be written, some one somewhere has got to have authority to do something and it is going to cost some money to do it. Can we afford to neglect it?

The motion of T. S. Parvin was carried unanimously, and the resolution was adopted.

Col. Scott: It has been suggested to me that the organization needs a committee on resolutions, I therefore move that the President appoint a committee of three on resolutions.

Motion carried.

The President appointed on that committee Col. John Scott, of Nevada; Judge John Mitchell, of Des Moines, and B. B. Richards, of Dubuque.

President: The next thing in order is the report of the committee on organization.

Gov. Gue read the report of the committee as follows:

Your committee appointed to present names of suitable persons to fill the offices of the Pioneer Law-Maker's Association for the ensuing four years would respectfully recommend the following:

For President, Judge Edward Johnstone, of Lee county.

Vice Presidents, Col. H. H. Trimble, of Lee county, Dr. G. M. Davis, of Clinton county; Hon. B. B. Richards, of Dubuque county; Hon. L. L. Ainsworth, of Fayette county; Hon. John Russell, of Jones county; Major S. K. Cremer, of Wapello county; Hon. Newton Guthrie, of Warren county; Hon. L. W. Ross, of Pottawattamie county; Judge Samuel Rees, of Webster county; Hon. R. A. Smith, of Dickinson county.

Secretaries, Judge A. R. Fulton, of Polk; Chas. Aldrich, of Hamilton; Ben. Van Stéenburg, of Jackson.

Hon. C. S. Wilson, Editor at large.

Signed,

B. F. GUE, *Chairman*.

Judge Wright: I want to ask my distinguished friend from Polk county to strike out all those Honorables before those names and just report them as plain, simple Mr. Jones and Mr. Smith. Everybody in this house is an Honorable, and what is the necessity of keeping up the prefixes? I move to strike out all the Honorables and Judges and have it plain John Smith and Tom Jones.

Motion of Judge Wright carried.

The report of the committee as amended was adopted.

President Duncombe: I have the very great pleasure of introducing to you as president of this association for the next four years a gentleman who has been intimately connected with the affairs of our State and with the affairs of the Territory, and is familiar in every respect with the laws, the customs and the habits of the people, and acquainted with nearly all the old law-makers of this country; a gentleman who will do credit and honor to the State, and who will, in all his acts in connection with this institution,

make it decidedly and permanently for the benefit of all the members, and a matter of rejoicing to every one of us. I name therefore the gentlemen who has just been selected, the Hon. Edward Johnstone, of Keokuk, as the president for the next four years. (Applause).

President Johnstone on taking the chair addressed the Association as follows:

Meetings like this unavoidably call up reminiscences of the past. I landed at Burlington in July, 1837. It was not then Iowa, but Wisconsin. I found a strip of country not more than fifty miles wide, bordering the western bank of the Mississippi river. The remaining portion of what is now the great State of Iowa, was all Indian lands. The business of the settlements was confined to the country adjacent to the river, for with the far interior there was little traffic,

Indeed the great stretch of territory now known as the "Missouri Slope" was a *terra incognita*, and the country west of Des Moines was regarded as of but little agricultural value. Those great factors—I might justly say, the most potent factors in the development of our prairie State,—the railways, were unknown within its borders. It seemed as if the early settlers of Iowa must strip for the great contest, and, unaided, overcome all the natural obstacles that stood in their way. It seemed like a mighty work to spread over the vast country, between the Mississippi and Missouri, the blessings that flow from happy homes, and schools, and churches, and all the concomitants of an advanced civilization. But they entered into this great struggle and triumphed.

It is needless to speak of Iowa now; of her millions of inhabitants; of her stately cities; her pleasant villages; her railways traversing each of her ninety-nine counties; her high intelligence; her fair women; her honest men, and, above all, her churches and her schools, those two supreme guardians of the public weal.

"None fears the puny sceptic's hands,
Whilst near the school the church spire stands;
None fears the blinded bigot's rule,
Whilst near the church spire stands the school."

There has been much fruitless investigation and controversy among archaeologists, and learned men, about the site of the ancient Garden of Eden. It may be that it will never be known where it *was*,—but we all know where the modern garden *is*—somewhere in the State of Iowa. The particular locality, I leave each man to determine for himself.

In looking down the vista of years gone by, we are compelled to turn to the years to come. I have often reflected on the vast agricultural and other probabilities of Iowa. She contains within her borders, 55,000 square miles, or about 35 millions of acres, of tillable land. Not one half of these acres—probably not one-third—is thoroughly cultivated, and yet, if we examine the table of our agricultural statistics, we are amazed at the yield of her cereal and animal products. When all her acres are tilled to their fullest capacity, who can estimate the total production? Add to this, the products of her

rich sister States of the Northwest, and where can a sufficient outlet for them be found? It will, and can only be found, in the great market of the world, for the Great World is the market for Iowa and the Northwest.

Although but few of us here present may live to see the wish realized, let us hope that the waters of every navigable sea will be vexed by the keels of American vessels, and that every commercial port in the universe, will, at some day—and that soon—welcome into their harbors our stately steamers, bearing aloft the stripes and the stars, and deeply laden with the products of Iowa and her sister States.

The past of Iowa, at least, is secure, and we, and those who follow us, must care for the future.

I had the honor of presiding over the sessions of the legislature in the winter of 1839-1840, and the summer of 1840 in Burlington. We met in the good old Methodist Episcopal church Zion—now no more, but, which I had hoped, would have been preserved as a memorial monument. The population for which we legislated was comparatively small, and its wants consequently not great, and we endeavored to enact as few laws as possible. It would be well if our present legislators would confine themselves within the same reasonable limits.

“The world is governed too much,” and Iowa is not an exception to that apothegm. A few general new laws, a few changes in the old ones, and very little special legislation might suffice. Many of our statutes are so amended—they call it—or changed at every session—especially those relating to the revenue—and some of these changes are of such doubtful meaning that the bewildered taxpayer is like those engaged in the freewill and foreknowledge discussion of Milton, in “wandering mazes lost.”

The future of Iowa, I repeat, is in the hands of her people, and they must see that it does not suffer. Among the States of the Union she is the most fertile and fairest, and stands in the front rank in the race of education. A resident for more than half a century within her borders, I know she is all I claim for her, and I know and feel that her people are always ready and competent to meet her enemies at the gates.

I know too,—and I think all present will be in accord with me—in adapting and applying to her the distich of the great Scotch poet:

“A State, that every State surpasses,
For honest men and bonny lasses.”

I again thank you, and beg you will pardon my brief and desultory remarks, promising that I will—in the well known ante-election pledge of candidates—“do my duty to the best of my ability.”

Judge Wilson of Dubuque: I cannot let this occasion pass without giving my endorsement to my early and old friend Judge Johnstone. When he and I met together in early times, 1837, as he says (I think it was 1836), I met him at Mineral Point. He and I were boys, and I loved him. We met together, and I never knew a better man than Judge Johnstone. (Applause.) He and I were appointed on a committee by the first legislature to decide who were entitled as half-breeds to the lands in Lee county. I met him there in early times, when he and I were both wondering how we would ever make a living in this world; and we met together as friends, and I have known him as a true, good man all my life. He and I have been separated from each

other, but I have always remembered him with a great deal of gratitude and pleasure. He has gone with us through all the troubles and trials of our early life.

Judge Samuel Murdock: I wish to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That we return our most sincere thanks to the Hon. John F. Duncombe for the able manner in which he has presided over our association for the last four years.

Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Judge Casady: I wish to state why Mr. Pusey is not here. He was with us four years ago and consented to be with us at this time, but recently his partner has been taken sick and he has to take charge of his business there at Council Bluffs. I will read a short note which I have received from him.

(Judge Casady reads note from W. H. M. Pusey.)

Gov. Gue: Geo. W. McCrary has notified me that he accepted the invitation to address this reunion, and he made all of his arrangements to come, and had chosen as his subject, "The Old Times and the New," and had prepared such an address as McCrary can prepare. Yesterday evening I received a dispatch from him that he was suddenly taken with the influenza, and his physician stated it would be imprudent for him to undertake the trip, and he, with great regret, was compelled to forego the pleasure of meeting with us.

(Gov. Gue read the dispatch from Judge McCrary.)

On motion of Senator Dungan it was ordered that all addresses from absent members be printed with the proceedings of the association.

Judge Wright: It seems to me that it would be proper before we adjourn that the publication of these proceedings be referred to a committee. Now, it will occur to us all that there may be many things that there will be no necessity or propriety in including in the pamphlet to be published. I suggest that gentlemen be requested to furnish a copy for publication, but that the same be referred to a committee on publication, and that they have power to select. I think that is the usual manner in such an organization as ours, instead of providing that everything should be published.

We can prune very often, and make it just as valuable to us as to publish everything.

Music by the choir, "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

FIVE MINUTE SPEECHES.

Mr. Russell, of Jones: As a question has been raised here in this meeting in relation to a certain letter that was written by Judge Wright, I would suggest that it would be perfectly proper for the judge to explain to this meeting what was the real meaning of that letter.

Gov. Gue: Mr. President, I move to strike out from the remarks of Mr. Russell the word "Judge."

Mr. Russell: I will consent to strike out the word "Judge" and insert "Geo. G. Wright."

Mr. President: Geo. Wright, I would be very glad to hear from you if it does not lead to any personal difficulty.

GEO. G. WRIGHT, OF POLK.

Mr. President: I am not at all surprised that the gentleman could not read my writing.

Mr. Murdock: You cannot read it yourself?

Mr. Duncombe: I have been of that same opinion.

Mr. Wright: I am more and more satisfied that the leading democrats of this State are not educated and cannot read. (Great laughter.) The idea of Ed Johnstone and John F. Duncombe talking about another man's writing. (Laughter.) Now there are some things I can stand, but that is going beyond the line. I will venture anything in the world that the address you have just heard delivered was written by some person else. (Laughter.) He never could have read it on earth if he had written it himself. (Laughter.) Now Ed Johnstone, say right there to this audience that you wrote that. You never wrote a word of it. (Laughter.) I delivered a lecture to the law school at Iowa City and Judge Love was sitting behind me and after I had left, he did not have as much courage as Duncombe and Johnstone have, he told the next day that it was a pretty good lecture and he was not surprised because he knew I did not write it, as he looked over my shoulder and he could read it. (Laughter.) Now all I have to say about that is this, that I do not think I ever had as much trouble in my life as I had to get Judge Johnstone here, and I think what brought him was this: I told him that I had said twenty-five years ago, and you see what a prophet I am, that it would be a cold day when a democratic Governor was inaugurated in Iowa. (Great laughter.)

President Johnstone: Geo. Wright, your time is up, take your seat. (Great laughter and applause.)

T. S. Wilson: I do not blame our friend, Judge Wright, for his mistakes in reference to this matter, because when he wrote to me asking me to deliver an address here on this occasion, I took it all over town and there was not a democrat in town that could read it. I had to get a republican to read it for me, and I do not think that anybody ought to blame Judge Wright.

Judge Wright: You see that is only evidence of what I said just now, that the democrats could not read. My friend, President Johnstone, will not extend my time and I will have to give up.

H. H. TRIMBLE, OF LEE.

Mr. President—Pr

President: Come forward to the platform, Hank.

Mr. Trimble: Mr. President and gentleman, perhaps it is well enough to call on me, because I shall not indulge in any wit. If I should attempt it it would be a failure. You do not want it all pie and sweetmeats, and after I get through we will hear from our friend Geo. Wright, here. I was going to say I knew just the reason he did not write a respectable hand. He was educated in Indiana where I got my education, in a log school house.

Now, Mr. President and gentlemen, I have been feeling very happy this afternoon. At first it occurred to me it was because I had such pleasant surroundings and was meeting so many of my old friends, but afterward it occurred to me that possibly it was because we were living under a democratic administration.

It is very difficult for any person, a member of this association, to talk about matters that are pertinent to the purposes of our organization without saying something complimentary to us as a body. We must talk about the past because most of us are getting to that time in life when we look back. In thinking of the work that had been accomplished by the gentlemen who are members of this association and other associations from year to year, it occurred to me that perhaps very few of us realized the great work that has been accomplished by the Pioneers of this commonwealth. One of the great achievements of the human intellect is the founding of free government. In America it is not regarded as a very great accomplishment, because so many of that kind of governments have been founded in the last hundred years, commencing with the government of the United States and followed by the organization and building up of so many State governments.

And yet, considered in the light of universal history, it is one of the great achievements of the human intellect to found a free government such as the government of the State of Iowa. The pioneer law-makers of this State not only assisted in founding this commonwealth as a free government, but it is an exemplary one. It is one of the very best of the State governments of this confederacy of States. Its example has been followed by such new States as Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, California, and perhaps other western States. In 1847 the great State of New York commenced a series of law reforms that has accomplished very much for this country. It adopted a code of practice in 1849, I believe it was, and two years after that—if I am not correct in my recollection some of those older members of the General Assemblies will correct me—a committee was appointed by the General Assembly of this State, then only two years of age, to report a reformed system of practice for the State of Iowa, and in 1851 a Code was reported. I believe Chas. Mason was the chairman of that commission. That was the reformed Code of practice in Iowa, adopted just four years after the great State of New York had commenced its law reform, and that system of reform adopted by the State of Iowa has been followed, as I have already suggested, by several of the newer States. They have followed Iowa as an example in law reform. Now the first constitution, and I believe the present constitution also—and if I remember right my distinguished friend,

the handsome President of this association, took a hand in framing the constitution that is now in force, or the one before it—established a very simple government, the central thought of which was personal liberty, individual liberty—the right of every individual to acquire all that he could of this world's goods, honestly, and the protection of him in the exercise and enjoyment of these goods. That is the central thought of all free government, to allow every man—and when I say every man I mean every woman too, for this is an age of woman's rights—to acquire all that he can honestly of all the good things in this world, and then the next duty of government is to protect him in the enjoyment of these goods. It was suggested to-day that it was a marvelous thing that there was a moral power in this country, in America, that could so assimilate all the vast immigration from Europe as rapidly as is done in America. And some gentleman suggested that it was the common school that caused that. I beg leave to differ from that gentleman. I think it is the clear recognition of that great principle of human liberty, individual and personal liberty and right, the right of every citizen to acquire all he can honestly of the good things of this life and to be protected in the enjoyment of these acquisitions. That is what directs to us all the lovers of liberty all over the earth and permits them to assimilate themselves to our institutions and become American citizens. And just as long as this country keeps in view this great central principle of personal liberty and free government we may hope to perpetuate free institutions in America and to assimilate all the elements of the old world that may come among us and become a part of our citizenship. But when we once lose sight of this great central thought and idea, when we allow combinations of capital, or combinations of labor, to overturn this central idea, that moment we have abandoned the only safe ground of free government in this country, or any other country. (My friend Geo. Wright pulled at my coat-tail. I suppose he thinks the five minutes have expired that have been allotted to me.) We find that we are threatened with this curse of free government, combinations of wealth and capital on one side and on the other side combinations of labor. I cannot find fault with the laboring man if, when he finds wealth is combined against him, and trusts are formed everywhere, he forms combinations of labor. The government of this country ought to make it a crime for men of wealth, or laboring men, or any other class of men, to combine for the purpose of restricting this principle of individual and personal liberty. The doctrine of this country is that one man is just as good as another, and in the language of my old Indiana friend, a little better. If the governments of this country, state and national, tolerate these combinations of wealth and capital on one side and labor on the other, then we have got upon the descent that will ultimately lead to despotic government and the destruction of free government.

Now, Mr. President, I told you when I commenced talking that there would be no fun in what I said, and I suppose you are all aware of that fact by this time. I hope that I shall have the pleasure of meeting all of you four years from now and hearing the address that has been promised by our distinguished president. I thank you for your kindness in calling upon me, and bid you good evening. (Applause.)

J. H. POWERS, OF CHICKASAW.

After listening to what Gov. Gue and Mr. Parvin said in reference to the loss of documents, I feel as though I was in duty bound to place within their reach or at least tell them where can be found a document that probably was the starting point of the undermining of the integrity of Iowa Legislators. I hold in my hand the first pass that was ever issued, that is one of the first series that was ever issued by Railroad Companies to the Iowa Legislature, and I may right here say that John Scott was an accomplice in that matter and received one as did also John F. Duncombe.

John Scott: I deny it.

John F. Duncombe: I take all good things.

Mr. Powers: This is the pass that was given to Senator Coolbaugh in 1860, the first pass that was ever delivered to my knowledge, and was so reported by himself, to an Iowa Legislator. What I want to say is that is the last one I ever received and I want to put these gentlemen who were with me on the confessional seat and see if they have been as innocent as I have been all these years. I had forgotten to say that Ainsworth had one also.

(A voice): Were you ever a member of the Legislature since?

Mr. Powers: No I have not been. (Laughter.)

I hear a great deal said about the growth of our State, about the increase of wealth. Now we as old men have seen the young man as he entered upon his farm in poverty and as he started using the utmost economy to lay the foundation of a future prosperity and a home. Now members of this convention I am satisfied that if you will recall the past Iowa owes her prosperity to our economies in early days. I recollect in 1860 when I introduced a resolution in the State Senate asking that they appropriate \$18 for a sidewalk from the Grout House up to the Capitol so that I could take my wife up to the Capitol with me, that John Scott voted against it because his wife was not here and could not go up with him, and it was extravagant, and it was suggested by John F. Duncombe that she pull herself up as his wife did, by the hazel brush a little farther east. And then the first row we had with the House was with reference to the sand boxes, they had tin sand boxes costing fifty cents, and we had sand boxes costing seventy-five cents and they came near passing resolutions of indignation. I have the sand box yet and the sand too but I did not bring it up. When I came here this morning and looked over this assemblage I did not think you would need any sand and I left it at the hotel. I refer to these things to show that we stand behind this prosperity by our early economy. (Applause).

JOHN SCOTT, OF STORY.

I deny the statement of Mr. Powers. I never saw that pass before. (Laughter.)

Mr. President, it has been more or less in my thought from time to time in years past as to how the stone, when it should be set over my last resting place, might be best and most in my honor and still most modestly be marked. I speak of this as a mere matter of every day thought. I do not make a suggestion to any other gentleman in regard to that sort of thing but it is one of the matters of thought in connection with the business of life that we approach that time without fear and, as I trust, without shame.

or regret for the past. I believe this evening I have found the motto that I will choose. I have thought as a dweller on the Iowa prairies now for nearly thirty-five years, with pleasure of one duty that I have endeavored to perform more or less in all these years and especially in the early ones. I have thought I would like to have it said of me to those who shall come after, "He planted these trees, he started these groves." I have thought of other things of the same character in which it has been my fortune to be engaged in connection with the furtherance of the welfare of this State, but it seems to me my last thought is the best, and that is that I would have marked upon that stone, "He was a pioneer Law-Maker of Iowa" and for this reason: that should that be done and I should rest in the center of this commonwealth, for it is very near the center where my home is, where my loved ones that have gone before now lie, my monument then would be all around me. Go east and go west, go north and go south, everywhere, look where you may, and see the monument of the Pioneer Law-Maker. Mr. President, am not sure but while I am in this vein I am inclined to take to myself—I am willing to divide with these gentlemen of course—but to take, on account of the accident of my being one of the Pioneer Law-Makers, a small part of the credit beyond what I think I am now willing to give to those who are more modern. Our State is finding to-day some difficulties, some grave questions are arising, and it is, I think, rather more than the law-makers of to-day are equal to. They are themselves putting forth their conundrums and saying, what will you do for this and what will you do for that, etc. They are really largely at sea in regard to many of these questions. I do not say that if these questions had come before us in that time that we should not have been at sea, but I believe that so far as the questions which come before us, so far as the questions which ought to come before us, and did come before us, the men who went before were more able to meet the demands of the occasion than the men are now. I beg pardon of my friend here (Senator Dungan) and there are probably a number of gentlemen here who are in the present Assembly. It seems to me they ought to have wisdom to lift these fellows out of dead-locks and everything of that kind if they wore such badges as these.

Senator Dungan: Didn't we do it?

Mr. Scott: But, Mr. President, seriously in regard to this. This question comes before me in such a way that I am not able to speak on it simply for five minutes, and five minutes is really more than a fair division of the time here amongst all the gentlemen and I wish to hear from the others. I heard Sotto Voce—I do not know what language that is in—a voice here in the rear that I would like to hear from more freely than I do from their seats.

GEO. G. WRIGHT, OF POLK.

To gentlemen that were present four years ago it will be remembered that a resolution was offered looking to the collection of statistics for data that should assist the preservation of the history of the State, and especially the histories of the several gentlemen who were among the Pioneer Law-Makers. That resolution was adopted and it was contemplated that responses should be made to the questions that were there contemplated before the adjournment. It will be remembered the sad circumstances

under which the adjournment took place, and therefore there was no response to the resolution. It was to the effect that each gentlemen of the association be requested to return answers to certain interrogatories as to the time of his birth, place of his birth, place of his education, perhaps, what services if any in the army, with what regiment, the present place of his residence, his profession, and also what posts he had held in Iowa or elsewhere. Now following that resolution, the committee arranging for this meeting have had printed certain interrogatories that I have been requested to call to your attention and ask that each of you before you leave this evening should call upon the Secretary and get a copy so that you can be prepared to return your answers to-morrow and leave them with the Secretary. It is intended if we can get full returns in this respect to have this data, or these responses, published with the proceedings of the meeting so that they may be of assistance, as they will be in gathering the future history of the State. I call attention to this at this time and hope it will be observed.

One thing more before I sit down. I have been requested, by the minister in charge, and also by other persons connected with this church, to say that in pursuance of a custom long observed by the the ladies of the church, to-morrow is the day that they furnish, as they do every two weeks, a dinner or lunch in the rooms adjoining this room. It is not prepared because we are here, but it is their day. To-morrow they will have a dinner prepared and they ask me to call your attention to it, and to say it will be ready and to have you all come. It will be for a mere pittance, and I trust you will all remember the ladies by this excellent lunch. We can go on with our work to a late moment. I mention this because they have been kind enough to open this church for us for a mere nominal sum, and I trust every gentleman present will remember what I have said about it.

A. C. FULTON, OF SCOTT.

I merely wish to speak of the Assembly of 1854 in a very few words. In that session the capital was removed from Iowa City to Des Moines. I am not well and not in condition to speak, but I did not wish to go home without saying I was here. As a member of the session of 1854, the extra session of 1855 and the session of 1856, the chief business I was interested in was the moving of the capital from Iowa City to Des Moines, and passing acts governing railroads, the first that were ever passed.

L. L. AINSWORTH, OF FAYETTE.

I thought nobody would think I ought to make a speech, but there was one thing I wanted to explain to you gentlemen, that Judge Wright spoke to me of before, and that was that when I became a politician, whenever I wrote I should write so people could not read it and then it would never knock me on the head afterward. That is the way Judge Wright comes to write so that people cannot read it.

There is another thing. It was true when I came to this State that Judge Wright and my friend, Judge Johnstone, and my friend Griffith, all of those men were the old men. We boys, Duncombe and I, were taught to look up to them as the old men of the State, and now, while it is said that

every year makes about as much difference with each man, Duncombe and I have about caught up. They are not the old Pioneers to the extent that they were then, because in the crowding in the activity of life the young men came forward as the men now are coming forward, and go to doing the business which the older men have retired from. Now my friend Powers, to-day is complaining because he has not had passes since 1860. The reason is he has got so old people think he is not worth having them given to him. (Laughter.)

There is another little thing that Col. Scott had trouble about; that is what he will have on his tombstone. I will tell you what I have concluded, while he was talking, to have on mine: "Here lies a fellow that did a good many good things, but was so modest nobody ever found it out." (Applause and laughter.)

It was moved that Judge Wright be excused for his bad writing on account of the explanation of Mr. Ainsworth.

President: If there is no objections he will be excused.

Soprano solo by Mrs. Bromley, "Bonnie Doon."

C. C. NOURSE, OF POLK.

Mr. President, and gentlemen and ladies:

I am not very certain that I can be reckoned as one of the law-makers of Iowa. I had the honor in 1854-5—I do not look it, but it is a fact—of being clerk of the house of Representatives of the State of Iowa. I was also clerk of that body at the extra session of 1856, and was secretary of the Senate in 1856-7. It was my duty only to record the wisdom of these gentlemen. I tried to make a faithful record so that your names and your doings might go down to a grateful posterity. I am very glad to see so many of my old friends and acquaintances here. My experience in Iowa has been a very peculiar one. The men that I got acquainted with thirty years ago I can tell as far as I can see them, I know them by the back. These new comers that have come to Iowa in the last ten years I am introduced to twenty times and I cannot tell them the next day, they are all alike. There is no individuality and no peculiarity by which I can remember. They make little impression upon my mind.

I had the honor in 1876 of being appointed by Gov. Kirkwood to make the centennial address in behalf of the State of Iowa, and three of the pleasantest weeks of my life I spent in gathering the material for that address, in hunting over the archives of our State to preserve, as far as I could condense in that brief address, something of the early history of Iowa. I want to say here in connection with that resolution that was adopted, when you go to find something of the early history of Iowa and something of the archives of Iowa do not go to the State Library. You will find in the old Capitol building, a dark room in the basement that is full of old papers from the ceiling, to the floor, packed away in store boxes, moldy and full of dust in pigeon holes. The State of Iowa ought to send some competent person into that dark hole, if it is there yet full of those papers, to sort out and save whatever is valuable in that subterranean treasury and probably you will find the Journal of that convention there. I have found some very valuable matters.

in times past. I simply go to the janitor of the building when I want to find out anything there. This thing ought to be taken care of. I make this practical suggestion here and I hope that whenever any one is commissioned to do this work they will go at it right. You will find that Journal probably in some dark corner in that basement and cellar. In some old store box you will find stored away a great deal of valuable material.

Now gentlemen, I won't detain you at this late hour with any attempt to make a speech. You all understand and know what great men we all are. (Laughter.) You all know as well as any one what you have done for the State of Iowa. Your work is here around you, and it has been a glorious one, and I do not blame you for congratulating yourselves and thinking of what ought to be written on your tombstones. (Laughter.)

Thanking you very much for complimenting me with this call I will subside. (Applause.)

JOHN MEYER, OF JASPER.

I suppose we all at a period in our lives when we were young had a great ambition to go into life by ourselves. I remember I used to read Plutarch's Lives, and about Alexander the Great, and about Napoleon and what their ambition was, and I thought when I arrived at that age it was about time to do something for myself. I came from Pennsylvania to Ohio and could not find an opening there, and I came to Iowa thinking that there was a great chance to do something to immortalize me and get something on my tombstone. (Laughter.) I went to Jasper county and it was at a time when sheep raising was in vogue. We had thousands of sheep in Jasper county, and I found that there were a great many dogs there, and it was the desire of every body nearly that every body else's dog should be killed but his own. (Laughter.) I thought if I could just get to the legislature and have a dog law passed, that that would be sufficient to have something put on my tombstone. (Laughter.) I persuaded the people that they could not do any better than to send me to the legislature, and when I got there I found that my friend Mr. Duncombe and Mr. Russell and others were there filled with the same ambition. (Laughter.) We went to work and I found there was very little hope to expect that my tombstone should tower above all others. After we had passed the law we thought it would be all right and I went away crest fallen, thinking there would be nothing on my grave, it was so common. It is said in history that the Governor had to call an extra session and all of these gentlemen then fought with each other to see which could immortalize himself by having the dog law repealed. (Great Laughter.)

Music by the choir: "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground."

Meeting adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

MORNING SESSION, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1890.

President Johnstone: As I have a little business to attend to this morning I will ask to be excused and call to the chair my old friend John Russell.

Mr. Russell: Before I take the chair I wish to introduce a resolution:

Resolved, That Messrs. A. R. Fulton, P. M. Cassidy, B. F. Gue, and Geo. G. Wright be appointed a committee on publication.

Resolution adopted.

Mr. Russell: Another thing, Mr. President, before you vacate the chair, I would beg leave to report this morning that the committee that was appointed yesterday to notify the General Assembly that their presence would be acceptable this afternoon here, have performed that duty by leaving with the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate a written notification to that effect to be read to their respective houses.

Here Judge Edward Johnstone vacated the chair and called to that position John Russell.

Prayer by Rev. I. P. Teter of Oskaloosa.

Music by the choir: "Hail Columbia."

President Russell: Judge Pusey, of Council Bluffs, was on the programme for this morning, as you see. He has not been able to be here, and Judge Thos. S. Wilson, of Dubuque, will entertain us this morning with an address, which I have no doubt will prove to be very interesting to all these old legislators. I have now the pleasure of introducing Judge Wilson, the oldest judicial officer in the State of Iowa. (Applause.)

JUDGE WILSON'S ADDRESS.

Mr. President, and ex-Members of the Iowa Legislatures:

I thank you for the invitation to address you, and for the pleasure of meeting you. The object of this association is worthy and noble. It is a common thing for men of different nationalities among us, to form associa-

tions to keep alive the sympathies which exist between them. Men and women often clasp, with friendly hand, those whom they had never before seen or known, because they had first seen the light in the same Fatherland, known the same green hills and fertile valleys, and wandered beside the same streams and mountains. If there be such feelings amongst those who never before knew each other, how much stronger must that be between those who, from a common and noble impulse, gave up the endearments of home, and the pleasure and comforts of cultivated society, to carve out a name in the far west; who met together here amidst the savage Indians, with a common interest and a common object, and who, side by side, through many years, endured toil, hardship, and privation, to open up this bright and beautiful land to usefulness and prosperity. The descendants of the Pilgrims never fail to commemorate the landing at Plymouth Rock, and the merits of their fathers, and that is commendable. The neglect of a commemoration of western settlement is one reason why western men have never been properly appreciated. It is very easy for those who come here now, to overlook and disregard the first settlers. But, my friends, our population has always been composed of men of all nationalities; and I have never seen, from any State or country, not even from New England, whose intellect was not sharpened, and fertilized, and whose common sense was not expanded by residence in the west. To illustrate this I will relate an anecdote of an event at Vandalia, Illinois, between Ninian Edwards and John Reynolds, rival candidates for the Governorship. Edwards was reared in Massachusetts, was a graduate of Yale, and though talented, very egotistical and self-important, thinking that no one reared in the west was worthy of consideration. In his speech he said that the large State of Illinois needed a man of ability and education for governor, and this he claimed to be, while Reynolds, he said, in no measure came up to that standard; on the contrary, he was so uneducated that in using the pronoun "I" he used a small "i" and dotted it. This raised a laugh at Reynold's expense. But when old John took the platform he said: "Gentlemen, I do not claim to be a highly educated man like Mr. Edwards. While he was attending college in Massachusetts I was helping my old father make a farm in Illinois, driving back the Indians, and helping to open up the country. But it was not because I was uneducated that I used a small "i," it was because Mr. Edwards, in the campaign, had spoken so much of himself that he used up all the big "I's" and left none but the little ones for me." Old John was triumphantly elected, made an able governor, and was the successful manager of the Black Hawk war in Illinois. There was but one defeat there, Stillman's, but that was temporary. The noble old hero, Henry Dodge, conducted it in Wisconsin, and by his skill and bravery terminated it there.

When the Indians were defeated in Illinois they fled northwardly, and when a few miles east of Galena, and in Wisconsin, they were met at the Pekatonica river by Gen. Dodge, where the battle of Pekatonica took place, and where they were again conquered, and continued their flight northwardly.

The object of our government was to capture Black Hawk and thus end his depredations. Gen. Dodge overtook the Indians at Bad Axe river and captured Black Hawk and peace ensued.

Now let us refer to our early legislation. I was not nominally a member of the first Iowa legislature, but was so virtually. This body, immediately after its organization, having passed a resolution requesting Judges Mason, Williams, and myself, to report separately to that body such bills as might be deemed proper for adoption. I was then in Burlington, the seat of government, holding the term of the district court there for Judge Mason. But, on the adoption of this resolution, I let Judge Williams, who had just arrived for the first time in Iowa, take the bench there and Mason and myself commenced work at reporting bills, most of which were adopted so far as I now recollect. This occupied my time during most of the term of that legislature. After twenty-one years of service on the bench, I was a member of the legislatures of 1866 and 1868. My friend, Judge Wright, in his letter inviting me to address you on this occasion, requested me not to deliver a funeral oration, but to speak mostly of anecdotes and pleasant early reminiscences. As so much of my life has been spent on the bench my reminiscences must necessarily be in that line, leaving those which are legislative to other old legislators who will follow. I am glad to know that this society includes the early judicial officers of the territory and State, as well as the early legislators. As most of my official life was on the bench this, including judicial officers among our numbers, enables me to comply with Judge Wright's request to speak of anecdotes and reminiscences, rather than funerals.

The first term of the court in Jackson county, after the organization of our territory, was held in Bellevue in a building of Mr. Heffly, a grocer, erected for a dwelling house, but not yet occupied as such, but contained supplies for the store. To make room for the court a hogshead of molasses, which was there, was rolled against the side wall with the end upwards, back of a projection made for folding doors. Judge Grant was then trying his first case in that county, as an attorney. Many of you know his powerful, shrill voice. The day was warm. The attendants at court with the exception of those engaged in the trial of the case, were sitting near the court house, on the bank of the river, under the shade of the trees. Among them was Peterson the court bailiff, who was about five feet high, and four feet broad with legs about two feet long. When Grant commenced to speak to the jury it was in his usual tone of voice, which could be heard for a mile. The outsiders when they heard his voice, thinking there was a row in court, rushed there. The bailiff, whose short legs left him in the rear, cried "Silence," repeatedly, and vociferously on his way. Being in the rear of the crowd his low stature prevented his seeing what was taking place before the court, and he climbed upon the molasses hogshead to obtain a view of the situation. Standing on the top of the hogshead, he raised himself on his tiptoes and again shouted, "Silence," for Grant was still speaking, and every syllable was like the bursting of a percussion cap. When the bailiff stood upon his toes and shouted, "Silence," the head of the hogshead gave away, and the bailiff sank to the chin in the molasses cask. This was a sweet predicament for the bailiff. I suspended proceedings until he could be resurrected, and when that was done he rushed to the river and went in for total immersion. But the sound of Judge Grant's voice was not always productive of bad results, at least to himself. It was when he and Judge Murdock defended,

at Dubuque, the Indian boy who killed a whisky dealer at Sodom or Gomorrah, Indian towns on the Winnebago, neutral ground near Ft. Atkinson.

After the trial, the Indians met in council to consider what amount should be paid to those attorneys for their services. During the discussion one of the old chiefs arose, and in his own Indian language, stated that he was present at the trial, but did not understand a word that was said by the lawyers, but he thought that the little lawyer who hallooed so loud ought to have \$100 the most, and it was so voted, although Murdock prepared the case for trial and argued it to the jury with great ability.

At a term of the court at Garnavillo, in Clayton county, an amusing incident occurred. There was but one hotel there, and during the adjournment of court there for dinner, most of the attendants at court were sitting in the bar-room of the hotel. Most of them were feeling very happy from the taste of the beverages there, and were laughing and talking. A very tall traveler entered the room, and enquired of the landlord if he could have dinner, and his horse fed. His tallness, about seven feet, attracted the attention of the crowd, and one of the jolly ones remarked to another, "What a tall man that is, who in thunder can he be?" The other replied, "We will never find that out for he is too tall to hear any question from us." It was then agreed upon by the crowd that old Esquire Springer, one of their number, and a small man, should be sent up as a committee of one to make the necessary inquiries of the stranger. The 'Squire, who was also a little, jolly, agreed to serve, and four or five of the crowd took hold of the Squire's legs, and feet and elevated him until his face was opposite to the stranger's. The following conversation took place between them, the Squire commencing: "Sir, I have come up, as a committee, to ask you who you are, where you live, what business you have here, and from what breed of men you got those long legs." The stranger, very much amused, replied, "Sir, my name is Hutchinson, I reside in Iowa county, I am going to Ft. Atkinson on business, and I got my legs from my grandfather Long Shanks."

The Squire then directed his supporters to let him down as he was ready to report, and he was let down. "What does he say, old man?" inquired the crowd. The Squire then gave as his report the questions and answers as above related, when the crowd said: "All right he can have his dinner, and his horse fed. Stranger, take a horn with us." Hutchinson was a highly respectable man, and was subsequently a member of the Legislature. I hope he is here now among us.

How pleasant it is for many of us to witness the improvements and changes made in Iowa, the place which we selected for our early home. During my official term my district included at different times the counties of Clayton, Dubuque, Jackson, Clinton, Scott, Muscatine, Cedar, Jones, Delaware, Fayette, Linn, Benton, Black Hawk, Grundy, Bremer, Floyd, Chickasaw, Allamakee, Winneshiek, and Buchanan. The supreme court was held first at Burlington, and secondly at Iowa City. There was no direct road established from Dubuque to Burlington, and we had to follow the bank of the Mississippi river, and this journey occupied five days; to Iowa City or Grundy Center, four days. In the winter time we travelled on horse back for the reason that, if there was snow, we feared to travel in sleighs, lest the snow should melt; if there was no snow, we feared to go in buggies lest the snow should come. Now, instead of being occupied five days, we can travel those distances in

five hours, without exposure to heat or cold, and without fatigue. The most important case in which I was ever engaged was what was generally called the "Dubuque claim case," involving the question of title to the land lying between a point on the Mississippi river, seven miles above Dubuque, extending along the river about twenty-five miles south, and nine miles wide. The claim was based upon an incipient grant from the Spanish government to Julien Dubuque, and was appealed from the United States court at Dubuque, to the United States supreme court at Washington. There are some pleasing reminiscences connected with the trial of this case, and particularly that of the intercourse of my colleague, Mr. Smith and myself, with the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, our opposing counsel. He was then at the height of his career as an attorney of the United States supreme court, having more cases then than any other lawyer, and crowned with professional success, and spending every winter in attendance upon that court. He had two very large libraries, one in his office at his residence at Baltimore, the other in Washington. He was noted for his affability and courteous demeanor. As soon as he heard of our arrival at Washington to try the case, he called upon us at the hotel, introduced himself to us, offered us the use of his law library and office, and gave us a key. We saw him often and enjoyed his society. One day when we were going to the court he said to me, "Mr. Wilson, I am told you have a farm on this disputed land, that you live upon it with your wife and children, and that all you possess in the world is invested there." I told him that such was the fact. He then said, "Well let the case be decided as it may, you shall not lose your home. I will make Mr Choteau convey it to you if we are successful." Knowing that he was sincere, I thanked him, saying that I hoped it would never come to that. After the case had been argued and submitted, and we had waited for weeks in great suspense, to hear the decision, and when Mrs. Wilson and I had taken our seats at the breakfast table, at the hotel, Judge McClean, of the United States supreme court, with his wife and daughter, sat down at the same table, and after bidding us good morning and alluding to what I had said to the court when arguing the case, and when trying to represent to the court the condition of the settlers in our town and county, if the decision should be against them, viz., that when turned out upon the prairies they would be in a worse condition than the Children of Israel, when in the desert, the Judge said to my wife, "Mrs. Wilson, are you ready to turn out upon the desert this morning?" She replied, "No Judge, and I hope you will make no decision that will render that necessary." Hearing this, I immediately arose from the table without breakfast, for I had not been served, and went rapidly to Smith's room. It was then 9 o'clock, but I found him in bed there, and as usual, with the door unlocked. Tapping him on the shoulder to arouse him, I said, "Smith, awake, we have gained our case." "How do you know?" said he. I then told him what Judge McClean had said at the table, remarking that he would never have joked with us upon the subject if the decision had been adverse to us. We immediately went to the clerk's office to learn the facts and found we had been successful.

I have alluded to the foregoing as a pleasant reminiscence of the most important case ever tried in Iowa, but the most pleasant one is yet to be mentioned, and that is the magnificent fee which we received for our services in the case from the city council. It is true that I worked for two years in

studying the history of Spanish grants, of which this was one, and I examined very many cases decided by the Supreme Court of the United States which illustrated the validity of Spanish titles and the rules and regulations of that government in reference to its grants of land. It is true that I spent two winters in Washington, traveling there via Cairo, Ill., thence up the Ohio river to Wheeling, and thence by stage to Washington, and returning by the same route, paying my own expenses, and that I aided in arguing the case there; but what were these services in view of the fact that when we returned, and presented to the city council the favorable decision of the Supreme Court, confirming to the settlers here, not only the right to all of the land in the city, but to two-thirds of the land in the county? What were all these things, in view of the fact that the city fathers handed us as a compensation an order on the city treasury for \$200 each! It is true that there was no money in the city treasury and that we had it discounted at 25 per cent, but that fact only enhanced the glory of their act, for it showed their confidence in our patriotism and love for our fellow-settlers, and their belief in our unwillingness to accept more. That sum of \$200 was the corner-stone of my fortune. Johnson received \$11,000 from Choteau as his fee for services, which would have been doubled if the case had been gained. The pendency of the Dubuque claim case before Congress for confirmation, and the successful efforts of the rich claimants to keep the lands there out of the market, was a great incubus upon the prosperity of our city and county.

Long after the settlers in the counties of Scott, Clinton, Des Moines, Lee, and all other river counties, had acquired the legal title to their farms, those in Dubuque had not, and very many emigrants located elsewhere, fearing to invest their money in improving land to which they could not procure title. It also retarded the development of our lead mines and caused harrassing and expensive litigation in the following manner:

A man named Flannigan, before our title was confirmed, desiring to become possessed of the rich lodes developed by the labors of such men as Richard and Robert Waller, the Langworthy brothers, Antonie Lore, and many others, procured from the government the appointment of agent of the mines here with instructions to lease the mines to whomsoever he deemed proper, and he proceeded to lease these mines and lodes to such persons as would share the profits with him, most of whom were loafers and dead-beats. When the discoverers of the lodes refused these lessees possession, suits were brought, based upon these leases, and petitions for injunction were filed by this pretended agent in behalf and in the name of the government to enjoin the discoverers from further mining or from selling the ore. This agent procured directions from the proper department at Washington, to the U. S. attorney of Illinois, Mr. Butterfield, to prosecute these suits, and he accordingly did so. After a long and tedious litigation it was decided that congress had never passed a law authorizing the leasing of the lead mines, except those in Indiana Territory; that in the absence of such a law the leases were void, and that the enjoyment of the public land and the settlement upon them had never been regarded as a trespass for which an injunction would lie. This decision disappointed and incensed the agent, and he wrote to Secretary Spencer asking for his influence for my removal. The secretary wrote to me complaining of the decision and stated that unless I decided that Flannigan's leases were good, at least in that part of Iowa which lay

east of the Mississippi river, he would urge my removal. Gen. James Wilson, our surveyor-general, and ex-member of congress from New Hampshire, an able lawyer and an intimate friend of Mr. Webster, was then in Washington, and hearing of this he showed my decision to the latter, who expressed his approval of the decision and informed Secretary Spencer that no part of Iowa lay east of the Mississippi river. This lesson in geography settled the matter; nothing was heard of the threatened removal. Flannigan decamped, the Langworthys, Wallers and Lore and others worked out their lodes, and they and their heirs are now enjoying the proceeds of their hard and meritorious labor.

The first court held in Iowa after its organization as a Territory, was held by me at Prairie La Porte, (now Guttenburg) Clayton county. There were then but three houses in the place and they were log cabins. There was no wagon road to Prairie La Porte and none directly to Delhi. The traveled road to the latter place was by Cascade, and what is now Hopkinton was then the farm and residence of Leroy Jackson, Esq., a former citizen of Dubuque. James Crawford, Esq., and myself, in going to Delhi to attend the first court there, went to Mr. Jackson's where we remained all night. The next morning Mr. Jackson piloted us up to Delhi. There was then no dwelling house there, the nearest being that of C. W. Hobbs, clerk of the court, which was a mile from the court house. The attendants at court dined out of their wagons. Mr. Crawford and myself dined sumptuously from the wagon of David Moreland, of Colony township. The court house was a one story log house on the bank of the lake, with one room below for the court, and one for the petit jury in the half story above. The floors were made of loose plank, and when the jurors walked over the loose boards above our heads, we were in constant apprehension that they would return into court without due deliberation. There being no place provided for the grand jury, they held their sessions in the adjacent grove with the foreman, Moreland, seated on a stump. A man who was held to answer for a criminal charge was discovered crawling through the grass to find out whether he would be indicted, was driven away. The county of Jackson was once in a great commotion, caused by an effort of the citizens of that county to remove a gang of horse thieves from their midst, who used the large cave near Maquoketa, as a harbor for the concealment and exchange of stolen horses from the north, for those from the south. Two or three men had been killed in this effort, among whom was the principal of the gang, a man named Brown, who resisted the sheriff when arresting the thieves. The Hon. E. B. Washburne, ex-Minister to France, in an address which he delivered afterward, refers to what took place at Bellevue at a term of court held there in April, 1840. He says: "I attended court there (Bellevue) a week or ten days, and was admitted to the bar by Judge Wilson. This was before I was admitted in Illinois. I have no time to speak of the wild and turbulent scenes of that term of court, and of which your staid prohibitionists of to-day can have but little conception. It would be hard to make you realize how matters then appeared to me, fresh as I was from the serious old State of Maine. When in Paris I wrote a letter describing what took place at that term of the court, and it got into the newspapers. I told of how it fell out, that in the little hotel where I stopped, and where I was to be put into the same bed with James Grant, of Davenport, and what was

my horror, when he commenced to undress, to see him pull out from under the back of his coat and lay beneath his pillow, a bowie knife which then and there looked to me three feet long. This fell under the eye of Grant and he wrote me a denial of the statement, and claiming that the bowie knife was only *two* feet long."

When Judge Lowe was on the bench, and with the other supreme judges holding court at Iowa City, and a case was being argued by the shrewd attorney, F. E. Bissell, Esq., who was presenting for his client, named Weigle, a very technical defense to a just claim, Judge Lowe looked over his eyeglasses very archly and said: "Mr. Bissell, did you say your client's name was Wiggle?"

The hardest lot I ever experienced in holding the first courts at a new county seat was at Edinburg, Jones county. The following extract from the Anamosa *Eureka* will serve as an illustration: "Edinburg, at the time of its location as the county seat, was a city of grass. Its streets ran in all directions. In fact it was all street. You could wander over its entire extent without getting sight of a wall of brick, wood or stone. The earth below, the blue vault above, were the only signs that the place was intended for human habitation; and, as all cities require ornament of some kind, a bounteous nature had planted there and reared a few scattering trees, and placed near its midst a quagmire for the benefit of certain long-nosed animals, the ever accompaniment of civilization. Such was Edinburg in the summer of 1840, and as we rode over it one day, alone and on horseback, and saw its newly driven stakes, its green grass, its quagmire, its trees, its vastness, and sent our gaze over the spreading prairies and into the blue sky above, we could not help exclaiming, in the language of Burns:

"Edina!" Scotia's darling seat!
All hail thy palaces and towers."

"The old settlers will remember what followed. A log cabin of commodious size for the then small population, by way of court house and in which Judge Wilson dispensed justice with mild and even hand. And the log cabin for a store, built by Bill Hutton—that was his familiar name—for a general grocery, including the crather, and dry goods store which, not proving profitable, was soon discontinued. Then, after a year or two, followed a two story frame hotel by the same enthusiastic individual, the said hotel being furnished with nothing save a few chairs, a sheet iron parlor stove, the public table made of rough boards laid lengthwise, and by way of night's lodging a load or two of nice prairie hay, cut a few hours previously, and pitched into the upper windows. Being spread upon the floor it furnished bed and bedding to judge, lawyers, jury, witnesses and the other unfortunate mortals who did there congregate.

If such were the hotel accommodations in 1842, after the hotel was built, what were they before? In 1840, when the first court was held in Jones county, there was but one dwelling house at the county seat, and that was a log cabin about fifteen feet square, with but one room, and but one bed. This was the residence of a Scotchman who had a short time previously emigrated from the Selkirk settlement in Canada. He had no table. A large red chest which his forefathers had taken from Scotland to Selkirk was used as a table, sofa, and for many other purposes. There being but one bed in the house

and that being occupied by the landlord and his wife, Mr. Malony, the deputy United States Marshal and I slept on a pile of straw at the side of the stove. The only other building in town was the log court house, consisting of one room. At the next term the members of the bar who went from Dubuque, the Marshal and I lodged at Farmer Hosterrer's on our way to court. Mr. H. offered to load his wagon with beds, bedding and provisions, and proposed that we should encamp in the court house. We accepted his offer, and he fulfilled his promise. After court adjourned, and after we had taken our lunch, our beds were spread upon the court house floor, and at bed time we retired to rest. Many of the jurors and other persons attending court sought repose with us and laid upon the floor, which had been swept. But little did we know what was before us. We were not aware that the court house had been used as a stable and hog dormitory during the summer previous. But the discovery was soon made. Sleep had scarcely rested upon the eyelids of the inmates, when, in the language of Scott—

“At once there rose so wild a yell
Within that dark and narrow dell,
As all the fiends, from Heaven that fell,
Had raised the banner cry of hell.”

Some rushed out upon the prairie but soon returned, saying that flight was useless as the prairies were full of fleas, and one man swore that he tried the tops of several hay stacks in the neighborhood as places of refuge in vain, for the fleas covered the stacks both sides and tops. This was a flea from which they could not flee. This, I think, was the last court ever held there. Whether the flea insurrection had anything to do with it or not, I do not know, but the county seat was removed to Anamosa, where there were comfortable accommodations. During these times, and at one of the terms of court there, the United States Marshal did not arrive until mid-day, and then stopped at the cabin of the Selkirk Scotchman. Being desirous of seeing him before the impannelling of the grand jury, I called on him on my way to the court house, and found him at dinner. While I was talking to him he opened a warm biscuit and to his astonishment he beheld, in the middle of it, a mammoth bed bug thoroughly cooked, and whose blood had crimsoned the inside of the cake to the size of a 50 cent piece. The astonished Marshal inquired, “What in the world is that?” Some one replied, “That is a Scotch sandwich, double price, because its ancestors were imported from Scotland in the old red chest on which the bread was kneaded.”

It has been suggested that reference should be made, on this occasion, to the case of Ralph, a colored man, on a *habeas corpus*, the first case cited in Morris' Iowa Reports, and the first case decided by the Territorial Supreme Court. The facts were that Montgomery, who lived in Missouri and owned a slave named Ralph, entered into a written contract by which the latter was permitted to remove to Iowa and to pay \$500.00 for his freedom. He was to be free when the money was paid. He worked industriously at mining for lead ore, but did not there make enough to pay for his boarding and clothing. Montgomery would, probably, never have claimed Ralph again had it not been for two kidnappers from Virginia who were here, who wrote to Montgomery that they would take Ralph to Missouri and deliver him for \$100.00. The offer was accepted. They then made an affidavit that Ralph was a fugitive slave and procured an order from a magistrate to the sheriff to seize

Ralph and deliver him to them to be taken to his master. Ralph was working on a mineral lot a little west of Dubuque city. He was seized by the sheriff and delivered to the kidnappers, who placed the negro in a wagon and took him to Bellevue, intending to take him to St. Louis on the first steamer. They avoided Dubuque, lest that a writ of *habeas corpus* should be sued out and a release ordered. Alex. Butterworth, a noble-hearted Irishman, who was plowing in a field adjoining, soon heard of the arrest and came immediately to my residence and demanded a writ of *habeas corpus*. An attorney drew up the application and it was granted. The sheriff overtook the party at Bellevue, and Ralph was returned to Dubuque. The case was heard, but at my suggestion was transferred to the Supreme Court of the Territory, because of its importance, where it was unanimously decided that Montgomery's written contract with Ralph whereby he permitted the slave to become a citizen of a free Territory, liberated him, and that slavery did not and could not exist in Iowa. These were mainly the same principles involved in the celebrated Dred Scott case which was decided many years afterwards by the United States Supreme Court. This decision was adverse to ours, but I rejoice that we had the opportunity to declare that Iowa was a free land, and the slaveholder could not, by bringing or sending his slaves here, establish slavery, and continue to sanction it, and in the face of constitutional provisions and organic laws absolutely prohibiting it. I rejoice further to believe that now no profound lawyer north of Mason & Dixon's line, or in any Christian land, where the common law prevails but who approves our decision and abhors the other. The difference between the two cases was that Dred Scott resided in free territory with his master who was an officer of the army, who was stationed there by order of the war department. Ralph afterward struck a rich lode, but died with the small pox. Iowa now has eminent Judges on the bench of the United States courts of whom we are justly proud, viz., Judge Miller, of the United States Supreme Court; Judges Love, and Shiras of the United States District Courts, and we formerly had Judges Dyer, now deceased, and Judge Dillon, who resigned. When I was holding one of my terms of court at Davenport, I had occasion to examine authorities in the library of John P. Cook, in the evening. Mr. Cook could not meet me there, but told me that I would find a law student there who would aid me in finding the books needed. I found the student there, who, when I informed him of the questions under examination showed a great deal of talent and wisdom. When I met Mr. Cook the next morning, he enquired whether I had succeeded in my search. I told him, I had, and that his law student would become an eminent attorney. That student was Jno. F. Dillon.

During the early days of our history there were practicing at the bar the following, to whom I refer with pleasure: At Mineral Point, Thomas P. Burnet and M. M. Strong; in Clayton county, Reuben Noble, S. Murdock, and J. S. Crosby; in Dubuque, Gov. Hempstead, W. W. Chapman, Judge Burt, W. Coriel, T. Davis, Jas. Crawford, F. E. Bissell, W. M. Mills, Judge Shiras, Hon. W. B. Allison, and Hon. W. Vandever; in Jackson county, P. B. Bradley and Jas. K. Moss; Clinton county, W. E. Leffingwell; Scott, James Grant, Ebenezer and John P. Cook, and John F. Dillon; Muscatine, Scott Richman, D. C. Cloud and S. Witcher; Des Moines, James W. Grimes, M. D. Browning, the two Starrs; Delaware, A. E. House, J. F. Peters, Griffin and

Brayton; Buchanan, Lee, Woodward and Jamison; Fayette, W. McClintock; Black Hawk, Judge Bagg, A. F. Brown and Mr. Bishop; Bremer, George Wright and Judge Ruddick; Linn, I. M. Preston, Judge Isbell and Judge Greene; in Lee county, Judge Johnstone, Judge Viele and D. F. Miller.

Among the names of eminent men residing in other States who attended the courts in former times in my district, were the following: Hon. Thos. Drummond, United States District Judge; Hon. Van H. Higgins, ex-Circuit Judge, at Chicago; Hon. E. B. Washburne, late Minister to France; Hon. J. P. Hoge, Hon. T. Campbell and Hon. J. Allen Barber, ex-members of Congress; Hon. J. Knox, Chicago; Hon. Mr. Butterfield, of Chicago, ex-United States District Attorney; Hon. James Wilson, ex-member of Congress from Vermont; Hon. Judge Drury, of Rock Island; Hon. Judge Huntington, of New York.

How many in both of these lists, and how many other talented attorneys who came here since, have passed away? How many of us have failed to attain that high destiny which our ambition and our desires promised us to end our days in the peaceful bowers which grace the mountain of fulfilled hope, are compelled to satisfy ourselves with that other peace which an author describes as the "peace of surrendered, not fulfilled hope; the peace, not of satisfied, but of extinguished longings; the peace, not of the happy love and the secure fireside, but of unmourning and accepted loneliness; the peace, not of the heart which lives in joyful serenity, afar from trouble and strife, but of the heart whose conflicts are over, and whose hopes are buried; the peace of the passionless, the peace of the happy; not the peace which brooded over Eden, but that which crowned Gethesmane."

Next came the address of Maj. R. D. Kellogg, of Dacatur county, his subject being "The Eighth General Assembly."

MAJ. KELLOGG'S ADDRESS.

Mr President—It is logical to conclude that the public events in which each member of this association took a part, are those most deeply engraven on his recollection. I therefore ask you to accompany me in searching in the ashes of the dead past, over which winter winds have blown and summer dews have fallen for the last thirty most eventful years. This brings us back to January 9th, 1860, at 2 o'clock P. M., when Stewart Goodrell called the House of the Eighth General Assembly to order, and on his motion Hon. J. C. Curtis, of Marion county, was elected speaker pro tem, and on motion of Mr. Wright W. P. Hepburn was elected chief clerk pro tem.

A permanent organization was effected by electing Hon. John Edwards of Lucas county as speaker, who made a deservedly popular presiding officer.

Charles Aldrich of Webster county, was chosen chief clerk, and the wisdom of that choice was a source of frequent comment, because of his able and efficient services.

But he needs no words of commendation from me. For he has erected to his memory a monument more useful than a bronze statue, and more durable than the marble shaft. The "Aldrich Collection" shall speak to and instruct all who behold it, both now and when its founder "shall sleep the sleep that knows no waking." In the brief time that I shall occupy, I will

speak only of a few members of the House, of the regular and called session of this Eighth General Assembly.

N. B. Baker, the experienced legislator, Judge J. C. Hall, the able jurist and Nestor of the House. Thos. W. Claggett, a true type of the old school Maryland gentleman, hospitable and generous, the earnest and determined H. C. Caldwell, now United States District Judge in Arkansas, the eloquent Gurley, the witty J. D. Jennings, the painstaking and thoroughly conscientious B. F. Gue, who had no time for folly, and the all round man Ed. Wright, the earnest good lawyer, the lamented Judge Mitchell, whose sudden death at the first reunion of this Association was such a shock to us all, the substantial G. W. Bemis, the irrepressible M. V. Bennett, the alert, active Rush Clark, the fluent, genial Pat Robb, and the accomplished Bowdoin G. W. Ruddick, were among the most conspicuous in debate, while N. G. Hedges, the unconquerable Stewart Goodrell, J. E. Williamson, Sam Rees, Macomber, Justice Clarke Whitacher and *many* others were noted for sound judgment and good work in Committee.

Taken as a whole, it has often been claimed to have been the ablest House in the history of the State. It was at least a notable body of law-makers. The General Assembly adjourned April 3d.

The cordial good byes and regretful leave-takings were made, and the Legislative halls deserted as all supposed till the time should arrive for the convening of the Ninth General Assembly. But time proved man's ignorance of coming events.

It was but a few short months, till the angry war cloud hung like a pall over the southern horizon, suggestive of all the dreaded horrors of civil strife. A dark gloomy day. Each man said, or thought, what is to be done. Hope, fear, anxiety and dread, failed to fill the full measure of the duty of the hour.

Action, though grievous, and hazardous, was imperative. Inaction, was to see the great American Republic divided, and ultimately subdivided into petty provinces, to become the easy prey of more powerful nations.

To our noble Governor to know his duty was to do it.

In obedience to the proclamation of Governor S. J. Kirkwood, the Eighth General Assembly convened in extra session May 15, 1861. Culbertson, of Johnson county, and Cutts, of Mahaska county, men of marked ability, were members of this extra session, but were not of the regular session. The condition of the country at this time tended to allay partisan feeling and to merge the partisan in the patriot. This was evinced by the non-partisan methods employed in the selection of the officers of the House, which was done by a committee of ten, reporting the names of parties to fill the different offices of that body, whose report was unanimously adopted.

As the object of this session was to secure such legislation as the exigencies of the time demanded, the more important bills introduced, emanated *from* or were referred *to*, the committee on "military affairs." This committee was composed of the following named gentlemen: Baker, Goodrell, Robb, Noble, Kellogg, Shipman and Moser; and so far as I have knowledge, Mr. Shipman and myself are the only survivors. The business in hand was thoroughly, yet vigorously dispatched.

The following concurrent resolution introduced in the House, and passed

by both branches of the legislature, reveals the settled policy of the people as proclaimed by their representative servants:

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has appealed to all loyal citizens, to favor, facilitate, and aid the effort to maintain the honor, the integrity, and the existence of the national Union, suppress treason and rebellion against the general government; therefore

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring herein, That the faith, credit and resources of the State of Iowa, both in men and money, are hereby irrevocably pledged, to any amount and to every extent which the government may constitutionally demand, to suppress treason, subdue rebellion, enforce the laws, protect the lives and property of loyal citizens, and maintain inviolate the constitution and sovereignty of the nation.

These were the days that tried men's souls. God grant that a similar occasion for convening a legislature in this State, or within the borders of this broad land, may never again occur.

The business of the session was concluded in fourteen days, and the legislature adjourned May 29.

One of the principal actors in the drama of those days, merits more than a passing notice. And the fragrance of any tribute laid upon his grave will be gratefully inhaled by all who knew him, and made a study of his noble traits of character. Adjutant General N. B. Baker, chairman of the committee on military affairs, was a remarkable man. Natural gifts were bestowed upon him with a lavish hand. Educated at one of our best eastern colleges, he won first place in his class, and graduated during his minority. Possessed with the born qualities of a leader, he was at the age of nineteen years editor in chief of the leading political organ of the then dominant party in his state, which was, also, the party in power in the nation. When scarcely twenty-one years of age he was elected a member of the House of Representatives and chosen speaker of the House. He was twice elected Governor of New Hampshire, his native state, read law with Franklin Pierce, and but for his modesty in giving the casting vote for Mr. Pierce, would himself have been the candidate for president instead of Mr. Pierce. He came to our State rich in experience, and was on the floor of the House but a short time till he was the recognized leader. He was largely instrumental in shaping the legislation of this eventful session. He was a man of powerful frame, a giant mind, an iron will, and a voice and manner that commanded attention and respect. He moved, and thought, and wrote, and acted with such force and rapidity, that to those of a different type, his methods savored of recklessness. But his public acts and records are a standing refutation of such a charge, and declare him to have possessed a *master executive mind*. While with my best efforts I should fall short of doing full justice to his great qualities of heart, and head, yet I would not canonize him. He was not perfect. He had sufficient faults to assert kinship to humanity. But he was a manly man.

He was gifted with a sound judgment, and with a perception of the right thing to be done when matters of the greatest moment waited upon his decision that seemed like intuition. His polar star was integrity, his friendship sincere, and he had a heart as tender as a loving mother. His great delight was to serve his country, his friend, or the needy.

But he, with most of his compeers, has passed the portals of death. Their voices are mute at roll call on earth. Having finished their work here, they have obeyed the summons "come up higher;" and

When I remember all
The friends, so linked together,
I've seen around me fall,
Like leaves in wintry weather,
I feel like one
Who treads alone
Some banquet-hall deserted,
Whose lights are fled,
Whose garlands dead,
And all but he departed.

Judge Wright: Before the next thing in order I beg to make a suggestion. It was provided on organization that we should meet every four years, and the organization was made permanent. It has been suggested to me by some persons who have given the question no little thought, that it were better we should meet every two rather than four years, and I therefore move you that the committee on resolutions be instructed to take into consideration the question of changing the rule and providing for meetings every two years at the time that the General Assembly should be in session. I move this in order that the matter may come to the committee on resolutions.

Mr. Noble: The four year term did not accord with my idea, but I made no opposition to it. I believed then and believe now that if this reunion is to be maintained it should meet once in two years instead of once in four years. The great majority of those who constitute this reunion will ordinarily prefer to visit the capital during the sessions of the legislature once in two years. Sometimes they have business at the capital during that period, and generally they want to meet their friends once in two years during the session of the legislature; and I believe it will keep up more interest in this organization. Four years is a long time with old men, and the most of us are getting along in years, and we would like to meet, I think, as often as reasonable and convenient. Therefore I would say to the younger members of the reunion that it can be no inconvenience to them to meet once in two years, and that they should accord to the older ones the privilege of meeting thus often as it is not in the nature of human affairs that they can meet many more times if we are to wait four years between times; therefore I second most heartily the motion of my friend Judge Wright for a change of programme in this respect, and I hope that the reunion will adopt it. Then I would add two years, of course,

to the date of service, instead of coming down from 1870 to 1874 I would come from 1870 to 1872; add two years at each meeting as we have so far added four. I hope, Mr. President, that the motion of Judge Wright will be sustained.

Mr. Scott: I think it is not necessary to refer that resolution to the committee on resolutions. It seems to me that the manner in which it has been presented is such as to satisfy every one that the resolution should be adopted. The members of the committee sitting near me should report back in favor of it.

Judge Wright: I suggested it be done in that way and I think it better for you to take it under consideration and frame the language of the proposed change. I will move you that the committee on resolutions be instructed to report a resolution so as to have a meeting every two years.

Mr. Abernathy: A suggestion occurs to me at this moment, that I will ask the convention to let me state, whether it might not be advisable for this committee or for other parties to suggest to the legislature the passage of a resolution or the passage of a law by which one day in a session should be set apart for a general convention in which the old members might be invited to take part. It would be making a recess for one day and giving that day to the Pioneer Law-Makers. It would provide us a home and an audience, but it might be entirely impracticable. I just throw out the suggestion at this time. It would obviate one difficulty we have, that of imposing upon the people of Des Moines in raising some hundreds of dollars to provide for this meeting.

Motion of Judge Wright carried unanimously.

Mr. Parvin: As the committee will come in this afternoon with their report, I suggest that the committee on resolutions be requested to report in proper language a tribute to the ladies whose services in the way of music have contributed so much to our enjoyment during the session.

President: I think that business may safely be left with Col. Scott.

Judge A. R. Fulton, of Des Moines, read the following original poem, addressed "To Iowa's Early Law-Makers" which was received with great applause:

TO IOWA'S EARLY LAWMAKERS.

Ye founders of a proud young State,
Some muse inspired your deeds might tell,
For you have planned a structure great,—
Its ground work fashioned strong and well.

Not here to-day you come as Whigs,
 Republicans or Democrats,
 Though some may wear judicial wigs,
 Or don official robes and hats.

In years by-gone 'twas you who gave
 This Commonwealth her statutes just;
 Her pioneers, so true and brave,
 Assigned to you that sacred trust.

Proud Iowa will ne'er disown
 The men who framed her early laws;
 Whose wisdom, yielding palm to none,
 Could find in codes all secret flaws.

If, in some hasty statute made,
 Some lurking error found a place,
 It surely could not long evade
 Your searching skill defects to trace.

The best you gleaned from every code,
 And winnowed well the chaff away;
 You, on a grateful State bestowed
 The grandest that she boasts to-day.

Mere party service not your aim —
 'Twas for the right you firmly stood.
 And heeded well the people's claim;
 As servants for the public good.

Let Solons of this later age
 Their annals now with your's compare;
 They cannot show one brighter page,
 Nor prouder laurels shall they wear.

On your foundations, strong and deep,
 Grand superstructures they may rear,
 If they in mind your virtues keep,
 And faithful to your plans adhere.

Like Cincinnatus, famed of old,
 Your State to serve you left the plow,
 And institutions helped to mould
 Which you may proudly boast of now.

A fertile land, with people rude,
 May scarce deserve the name of State;
 Refinement must succeed the crude,
 With laws that tend to elevate.

A State is not confined to soil
 In given metes and bounds embraced;
 But men with brain and hand must toil
 For homes, by all the virtues graced.

To form a State, all these combined,
 With righteous laws for justice framed,
 By men of stalwart mould and mind,
 Were needed, as you wisely claimed.

In decades past you saw the need
 To train in wisdom's way the youth.
 And nobly wrought, their feet to lead
 Along the shining paths of truth.

'Twas you, to bless the coming years,
 A temple planned on every hill —
 The Common School, where all are peers —
 The noblest product of your skill.

As precious grains and fruits are grown
 From soils by patient work and care,
 So seeds of knowledge must be sown
 In youthful minds, good fruits to bear.

All this you saw, with vision clear —
 So for the future wisely planned;
 And when no longer you are here,
 Your temples still shall firmly stand.

Far-seeing men, profound of thought,
 Who wear your honors with rare grace,
 These better times your wisdom brought
 To those who now assume your place.

Contrast the old and present day,
 With all their comforts and their ills;
 You cheerfully then paid your way —
 Ten cents a mile, and walked up hills.

• Men trudge not now the laws to make,
 By *Frink and Walker's weary line;
 But gorgeous palace cars they take,
 Where they may rest, or sleep, or dine.

'Neath golden dome, in marble halls,
 Adorned by rarest skill and art,
 Where statues pose on frescoed walls,
 Lawmakers now enact their part.

Sometimes, aroused from dream, or trance,
 Men's task unfinished, they renew;
 Your work, to retrospective glance
 Complete, you fondly now review.

You call to mind how some engaged
 In conflicts fierce upon the floor,
 Where mighty wars of words were waged —
 But — words they were — and nothing more.

Where is the "rural member" now,
 Whose manners quaint provoked your smiles,
 Until one day — you scarce knew how —
 He turned the scales by artful wiles?

He now is here — your hero brave —
 For honors since have strewn his way;
 A Nestor, silver-haired, and grave,
 He walks among you here to-day.

All still are friends, for none were foes,
 Though oft, opponents foes were styled;
 Now dearly prized, your rolls repose
 With mem'ry's treasures, safely filed.

Restrain not now a pensive tear
 For vacant seats in those old halls;
 Some colleagues gone, to mem'ry dear,
 Respond no more at your roll-calls,

How surely do your meetings wane,
 And weary waiting, one by one,
 Each, leave of absence shall obtain,
 When life's full calendar is done.

*Frink & Walker were proprietors of extensive lines of stage coaches in Iowa before the day of railroads.

The closing session soon you'll hold,
 And may you then with pleasure find
 That all your bills have been enrolled,
 And ev'ry act approved and signed.

The architect with pride may view
 The edifice his brain hath willed;
 A grander temple honors you —
 The Commonwealth you helped to build.

Music, alto solo, by Miss Lawton, "I Cannot Sing the Old Songs."

Then followed the address of Judge Samuel Murdock, of Clayton county, on the "Early Courts of Iowa."

JUDGE MURDOCK'S ADDRESS.

Mr. President, and gentlemen of the Association: I dislike very much to say anything personal in regard to myself, but some one said here last evening in the discussion that it seems necessary that we should refer to ourselves. The reference I wish to make to myself is made for the purpose of avoiding any mistake as to whom I am. Let me illustrate that by a little incident that occurred not very long ago in the city of Dubuque, the Capital of the State of Dubuque.

I was coming along down the street in company with a very distinguished lawyer from my part of the State when he met an old acquaintance on the street, and being a very polite man he thought he would introduce his friend to me when we approached. He says, calling the gentleman by name, "allow me, sir, to introduce to you my friend Sam Murdock of Clayton county." I can only illustrate how that gentlemen acted by referring to another little circumstance. It seemed that there was a balloonist exhibiting himself at an agricultural fair in the south, and he was in the habit, after rising in the atmosphere some three or four miles, of jumping out of the balloon and descending to the earth by means of a parachute. When the balloon arose into the air the wind wafted it off into the surrounding country, and at the proper moment he jumped from the balloon and sailed down. There happened to be an old negro working in the cotton field, and he had never heard of a balloon nor of a parachute, but he had read that some day or other they expected the return of the Saviour. He happened to look up and he saw the balloonist about a half a mile off in the air, and as a matter of course the poor old man thought it was in fact the Saviour descending to the earth, and the old man fixed himself up and thought he would be very polite to him when he came down. The man happened to light within a few feet of the old negro, and the old negro run up to him and says, "Hello, Jesus, how is your fader?" and so it was with the man my friend introduced to me. He says, "How is your father up there; how is the old man now? I used to know him a great many years ago. Are you a son of the old man that used to be up there, the Judge of the Tenth Judicial District?" After speaking to him I passed on and in a few moments I heard a great laugh behind me. The lawyer had told him that I was the old gentleman himself. (Laughter.) I tell that anecdote so that you will understand that the old gentleman himself is here, and not one of the boys. (Laughter.)

Another preliminary which I wish to refer to before I go on with the address, and that is this: I had the honor of serving in the two last sessions of the Territorial Legislature of Iowa. This is a melancholy subject for me to talk about for the simple reason that there is no one here in this Association to assist me in representing those two sessions of the Legislature. They are nearly all gone, and it makes my old eyes water think about it. I want to say here to you that perhaps some day I will endeavor to give you a history of those two sessions of the Territorial Legislature. And I want to say to my friends, Mr. Gue and Judge Parvin, that the history of that old constitution that was first adopted by the first constitutional convention can never be properly written unless you thoroughly examine the journals of those two sessions of the Legislature. You are aware, those of you who are acquainted with the history of Iowa, that that old constitution was voted on by the people, and consequently that threw upon us in that Legislature the burden of doing something for the future prosperity and happiness of the State of Iowa. The parties were then Whigs and Democrats. The Whigs were violently opposed to that constitution, it was too Democratic. They assailed it in every word and line contained in it, and they aroused public opinion against it throughout the territory for various reasons, and the people voted it down. We, at that time, calling ourselves Democrats concluded that it was a gem of a constitution and that we would make the people adopt it whether they would or not. So we passed an act to re-submit that constitution to the vote of the people and Governor Chambers vetoed it, but we passed it again over his veto and it was re-submitted to the people and was adopted as the constitution of the State.

Now the history of that can never be written until you see the attacks and the discussions that were made upon every word and line of that constitution in that legislature.

Begging your pardon, gentlemen, for this digression, I now proceed with the address. I want to say to you further that when I was informed by your committee that this subject was set apart for my consideration, I was not aware of the difficulty and the magnitude of the task that was imposed upon me until I began to examine the subject, and I trust you will see when I get through what a task they did impose upon me as a historical matter. I felt also that some one who was better acquainted with the early history of Iowa stretching away back into the dim past than I was ought to have been selected. I knew there were one or two men of that character in the State of Iowa, one in particular was one of the gentlemen I have already referred to, the Hon. Judge Parvin, who may be set down as the real historian of Iowa. However, begging your indulgence now for a few moments and hoping that you will pardon any errors that you may discover that I have committed, I propose in the few moments allotted to me to briefly follow the history of the courts and jurisprudence of Iowa from its early colonial and territorial times until the land that we now occupy became a sovereign State, a parcel of the great American Republic.

"Columbus had been dead but a few years when the wonder and excitement created by his discovery began to subside, and the nations of the old world had come to look upon it with apathy and indifference, and but for the occasional arrival in some seaport of an adventurous sea-roving ship

with an exciting and valuable cargo, the great discoverer and his achievements would have been forgotten.

In the year 1541, Ferdinand De Soto, in company with a band of adventurers, discovered the Mississippi river, but his death on its banks terminated his expedition and his followers returned without making any permanent settlement, and it was nearly a century and a half afterwards before other adventurers came to verify his discoveries.

About the beginning of the seventeenth century the English people began to plant settlements along the coast of North America, and called them New England.

France had also about the year 1608, established a few settlements along the banks of the St. Lawrence and called them New France, while Spain at the same time had planted her colonies in the West Indies and along the Gulf of Mexico, and called them New Spain, and for many years all of these settlements seemed to have struggled along under every conceivable adversity to maintain themselves, and it was not until about the middle of the seventeenth century that these three great nations had begun to take active measures to increase their respective settlements in order to establish over their territories as they supposed, as many great and powerful empires deriving their laws, customs, and religious sentiments from their parent countries. North America was never large enough, and never will be large enough to allow even two rival governments founded upon different customs, laws, religions and languages, to permanently exist and flourish upon its soil, without the one absorbing the other, and when we take into consideration the history and character of the various races of the men of these early colonial days, it is no wonder that the schemes and projects of these three great nations were failures from the beginning. Every movement on the checker board of politics in Europe, involved the weak and struggling colonies, and with them the red man of the forest, and taking the whole history of these early days into consideration we have before us nearly two centuries of border wars, and constituting the bloodiest chapter in the annals of the human race.

In 1673, Marquette had rediscovered the Mississippi river, and had followed it down to about the mouth of the Wabash, and in 1682, LaSalle had discovered its mouth, and France, eager to take advantage of these discoveries, soon established a line of forts along the lakes and the tributaries of the great river, and disputing Spain's right of discovery by De Soto, called the country Louisiana, after the great French king, Louis the 14th.

This claim of France extended from the mouth of the Mississippi to its source and westward without limit, and included within its bounds the land now known as the great and prosperous State of Iowa.

In the year 1712, as we read, this great French king granted a charter to one Crozat as vice Roy of Louisiana, and in it stipulated that the municipal laws, customs, edicts, and ordinances of the city of Paris should be observed as the laws of said colony, and it is here that we find in the ancient history of Iowa, as a part of said colony, the first set of laws that were ever promulgated for the government of her people, and it was for the purpose of explaining and interpreting these laws of the city of Paris, that the Roman civil code was from time to time referred to, until it finally became an indis-

pensible statute, which to this day holds its place in some of our southern states.

In 1762 France ceded all the country west of the great river, including the city of New Orleans on the east, to Spain, and all on the east side to Great Britain, and as soon as this treaty became known in the colony, all the French settlers on the east side abandoned their homes, crossed the great river, and settled on the west side; and it was in one of these stampedes that in the year 1763 St. Louis was selected and settled as a town site.

Spain did not take possession of the country on the west side, until 1769, and in the meantime the inhabitants held on to the laws of the civil code, but when the Spaniards did come, they attempted to introduce into the territory a system of Ecclesiastical laws supported by the terrible Inquisition, but the French settlers revolted against it, and the Nuncio was compelled to flee to save his life.

In the year 1800, Spain retroceded the whole of Louisiana back to France, and in 1803 France ceded it to the United States, and in 1804 congress divided the country into two territories by the line of the 33d parallel of North latitude, and called the south part, the Territory of New Orleans, and the north part, the District of Louisiana; and by this act of congress the Governor and Judges of Indiana were empowered to make laws, establish courts, and to provide all needful rules and regulations for the government and well being of the people of the northern district. And this Governor and these judges were not slow to act, for we find them as early as October, 1804, promulgating laws in relation to crimes and punishments, justice courts, revenue, attorneys, constables, sheriffs, oaths, marriages, and courts of quarter sessions, etc., and, as we are informed, these early law-makers took for their guide both the laws of Indiana and of Pennsylvania, and it is here that we meet with a change from the laws of the city of Paris, the Roman civil code and the Spanish edicts over said territory to the institutions and jurisprudence of the English common law, as provided by the statutes of said states.

But this system of laws did not long remain in force, for we find by an act of congress, dated March 3d, 1805, that a governor and three judges were appointed by the President, for what was now for the first time called the Territory of Louisiana, with full power to establish inferior courts, and to make all needful laws for the government of said Territory, as they might deem necessary. These early law-makers divided the territory into five counties, established terms of courts in them, and provided that the practice and procedure therein should be conducted according to the principles of the English common law.

In the year 1806 and again in 1812 congress passed laws empowering the people of said Territory of Louisiana, to elect their own legislature, and in the act of 1812, we find the name of the Territory changed to that of Missouri. Under these two congressional acts the legislature of the now Territory of Missouri in the year 1816 enacted "That the common law of England, of a general nature, and the statutes of England, passed prior to the fourth year of James I, of a general nature, should be hereafter the laws of the Territory of Missouri." And it was by the force of this enactment that the laws of France, Spain, and the Roman civil code, ceased forever in said territory.

By an act of congress, approved March 6th, 1820, the Territory of Missouri

became a state with her northern boundary limited to the line of 36° 30' of north latitude, and this left the country north of that line entirely without the pale of any law whatever, and this condition continued until 1834, when congress attached the territory north of Missouri and west of the Mississippi, to the Territory of Michigan, and called it the Iowa District; and by an act of the legislature of this Territory, dated September 6th, 1834, the two counties of Dubuque and Des Moines were organized.

By an act of congress, approved January 30th, 1823, all that country lying north of the state of Illinois, and between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi river was organized into a judicial district, divided into three counties, called Crawford, Mackinac and Brown, and provided for terms of court to be held at Prairie Du Chien, Green Bay and Mackinac, and attached the whole to the Territory of Michigan.

The legislature of said last mentioned Territory by an act, enacted October 9, 1829, organized all the country south of the Wisconsin to the Illinois line into a new county called Iowa, fixed its seat of justice at Mineral Point, and in the organization of the counties of Dubuque and Des Moines, as I have before stated, they were attached for general judicial purposes to this county of Iowa, and thus they became a part and parcel of the judicial district already referred to, as established by Congress in 1823.

It is here in this act of the legislature of Michigan, approved October 9, 1829, sitting at the city of Detroit, that we first meet with the word "Iowa" as applied to a tract of territory south of the Wisconsin river, and it is more than probable that it was this and the subsequent acts of said Territory in organizing the counties of Dubuque and Des Moines, together with their attachment to this "Iowa" county for judicial purposes, that suggested the name of "Iowa" for the new Territory west of the great river when it came to be subsequently organized, and if this be true, then the general history of our State will never be completely written until we learn something of the name and biography of the man who at this early date introduced that bill, together with the circumstances that prompted him to attach the name of "Iowa" to his new county.

By an act approved April 20, 1836, Congress organized the Territory of Wisconsin, with its western boundary from the mouth of the White Earth river down the main channel of the Missouri to the northwest corner of the State of Missouri, and thence with the north line of said State, and also with that of Illinois on the east, and this included what is now the State of Iowa and a part of Minnesota. By section nine of said act, the said Territory was to be divided into three judicial districts, and that the judicial power therein should consist of supreme, district, probate and justice courts, and by the fifteenth section thereof the counties of Dubuque and Des Moines were to form a part of one of these judicial districts, and all civil and criminal causes arising therein were to be tried within their respective limits. In obedience to said act, the legislature of said Territory in November, 1836, assembled at a little town in Iowa county called Belmont, and among their first acts was the formation of a judicial district west of the Mississippi river, composed of the counties of Dubuque and Des Moines and their attached territory, and assigned it to the jurisdiction of the Hon. David Erwin, one of the three Judges provided for by the act of Congress aforesaid,

and in the spring of 1837 this early Judge held a term of court in Dubuque county and one in Des Moines county.

Here then, we have the history of the first legal court, of original, appellate and common law jurisdiction, in both civil and criminal cases, that was ever held within what is now the limits of the State of Iowa, with the possible exception of a session of an inferior county court held at Burlington in April, 1835, under the laws of Michigan, but of which we have now no history to relate. It is to be deeply regretted that we have nothing at present but tradition to tell us anything of the biography of this early pioneer Judge, David Erwin, but that alone informs us of his high and eminent abilities as a jurist, and his honesty and integrity both as a public officer and as a man, and with only this we must be content.

By an act of the legislature of said Territory, approved December 21st, 1837, Clayton county was organized, and in the spring of 1838 the Hon. Chas. Dunn, one of the three Judges of Wisconsin, held a term of court in said county at Prairie La Porte. This eminent man continued to be the Judge of the first judicial district of Wisconsin until she became a State, and during his long term of service was held in the highest esteem by the bar and the people, and he died many years ago beloved and lamented by all who knew him while in life.

On the 4th day of July, 1838, by an act of Congress, approved the 12th day of June previous, Iowa was organized into a separate Territory, and Charles Mason, Joseph Williams and T. S. Wilson were appointed district Judges thereof, and conjointly to hold a supreme court for the correction of each other's errors if any were committed on their respective circuits, and these eminent men being assigned to respective districts the Hon. T. S. Wilson held at Prairie La Porte in Clayton county, in the fall of 1838, the first court that was ever held under the organization of the new Territory. This eminent man was born in Ohio in 1813, and graduated at Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, in 1832, and in 1834 was admitted by the Supreme Court of his native State to the bar, and in 1836 he landed in Dubuque and began to practice his profession, and it was while thus engaged, and without his knowledge or application, he was appointed one of the said Judges, as aforesaid, when he immediately entered upon the discharge of its duties, and continued his services on the bench during all of Iowa's territorial days and until one year and a half after the State was formed, when he resigned and went back to his former practice. Soon after the State was organized he was elected Judge of the third judicial district, and held the office until 1863, when he again returned to the bar, and this remarkable man is still alive and well, still in his law business, and is here to-day, mingling in the festivities of the hour. Having been intimately associated with him, both in public and private life for a few months less than half a century, I can truly say of him that he was always regarded by the bar of his district a profound and able lawyer as well as a calm, cool and deliberate judge. In his long official career but very few of his decisions were ever reversed, and when he retired he left behind him both a public and private record, and upon neither of which is there a single stain.

Of this early court Charles Mason was the chief justice, and always distinguished from the others by his tall figure and his apparent and seemingly reserved manners, but upon a close and intimate acquaintance with

him this apparent austerity vanished, and he would become as social as a child, and one could then easily see that what the outside world had taken for reserve and austerity, was extreme bashfulness on his part before strangers and the public.

His education had been thorough, his knowledge of the law was extensive, and his judgment profound, and these qualities, coupled with his commanding figure upon the bench, always gave to his decisions therefrom the most implicit confidence in their soundness.

He was born in Pompeii, in New York, on October 24, 1804, graduated at West Point, where he had for his classmates Jefferson Davis and Robert E. Lee.

After Iowa became a State he declined to continue any longer upon the bench, and in 1851 he assisted in completing the Code of Iowa of that year; in 1858 he was elected a member of the State Board of Education, and the same year he was appointed by President Buchanan Commissioner of Patents. After leaving this office, we find him again in the practice of law at Washington City, and afterward as editor of the *Scientific American*, but ill health seemed to be driving him from place to place until he finally returned to his home in Burlington, where died some years ago, venerated, beloved and lamented.

Associated with the other two, was the Hon. Joseph Williams, distinguished above all others in those early days for his humor, his wit, and for his musical talent, which, in spite of himself and the dignity of his office, led him to mingle in all crowds as a hail fellow well met, yet we must not judge from this part of his history that he was dissipated, or that he encouraged dissipation in others; far from it, for during our long acquaintance with him we never saw him intoxicated, and he allowed no man to become his peer in the practice and dignity of a gentleman. He was not a profound lawyer, but he had the quickness and sagacity to see the right of every question, as well as the courage and the manhood to seize upon it and declare his convictions, irrespective of parties or favorites, and it was these qualities that made him a most popular judge.

To any one who approached him for a favor he could never say no, and men frequently took advantage of this failing to procure his endorsements, which in very many instances he had to pay, and this kept him constantly embarrassed, and worried his life to the end; but rather than evade these obligations he has been known to encumber his home and hypothecate his salary in advance.

He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, on December 28, 1801, and I have it from his own lips that when a youth he was taken by a distinguished citizen of his native state, from a company of traveling mountebanks and made a man of; and often in after years he would refer to this benefactor with all the tender expressions of a son for a departed parent. In 1857 he was appointed by the President one of the District Judges of the Territory of Kansas, and in this new field he soon became a popular judge, and was highly honored by the bar and the people of his district.

It was during the early days of the great war that we happened to be in the city of Memphis, Tennessee, and learning on the street that a supreme court was in session, curiosity to see and hear its proceedings soon led us to the room and there, to our surprise, sat our old Iowa friend Joseph Williams upon

the bench, and he recognized us in an instant, and beckoning the marshal to him, he pointed us out, and in a moment we were seated within the bar, and when court adjourned he rushed forward to bid us a hearty welcome and to invite us to become his guest. We learned from him that President Lincoln had become so pleased by his judicial services in Kansas that he transferred him to this court.

After a few hours talk over our early days in Iowa, we parted and we never saw him more.

After the war was over he drifted about among his friends, and finally died at Fort Scott in Kansas in 1870. We have thus in a rambling manner sketched the outlines of the early history of the courts and jurisprudence to which the soil we now stand upon has been subject to, from its earliest discovery and settlement by the white men, until it became an organized Territory, and we may venture the assertion that no other tract of territory can be found in North America that has from time to time been subject to so many and such various jurisdictions of Kingdoms, States and Territories, to become at last at the end of the 19th century, a sovereign republic, where law and order under enlightened statutes, reign supreme, and where millions are enjoying life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We have also here contributed a few sketches of the early fathers of our present judicial system, upon which learned and eminent jurists have since builded that splendid structure of jurisprudence which has given to Iowa a name, and a fame wherever the English language is spoken. All honor then, to those venerable living and departed fathers, and let us hope and pray that the citadel they have reared upon this soil shall forever remain as a covert and a shelter for human liberty while its grasses grow green, and while the two great rivers of its borders shall flow onward in harmony to the sea.

At the close of Judge Murdock's address, on motion of Geo. G. Wright, the meeting adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1890.

At 2 o'clock P. M., President Johnstone called the association to order. Charles Aldrich submitted a paper regarding his collection now in the library room at the State Capital, which had been referred to in the remarks of Major Kellogg and others. The paper was ordered printed in the proceedings, and is as follows:

PAPER BY CHARLES ALDRICH.

MR. PRESIDENT: I desire to extend to every member of our association an invitation to call at the State Library and inspect the collection of autographs, letters, manuscripts and portraits which I have presented to the

people of Iowa. If your time will not admit of this in these inauguration days, I will be very glad to have such inspection made upon any subsequent occasion. I also desire to say that I will take great pleasure in placing in that collection, with appropriate biographical data, a portrait of every member of this association. As all we say here is to be reported and published in the pamphlet to be printed and sent to each one of us, I will add brief directions in regard to this matter. An engraved portrait, if it meets your approval, is preferable to any photograph, on account of its great durability. Our photographs are expected to fade after a few years, or at least to grow brown and discolored. It is, however, understood that photographs finished in India ink will last indefinitely, and photographers are able to do this or have it done. In the absence of an engraved portrait, it is next best to send such a photograph. These should not exceed the cabinet size. The name and residence of the party and the date should be written by himself on the front side—not on the back. Our printed pamphlet will have such biographical data as may be furnished to the secretary by members, which will be printed and may accompany the portraits. I would be glad to pay for these portraits myself, but I am unable to do this. It has never been the policy of our State to render any pecuniary aid to a collector of materials for its history. If you will individually aid me to this extent, I will be very glad to place these memorials where they will no doubt be most carefully preserved for future times.

I also wish to place upon record a word of thanks, and my own sense of deep obligation, for kindly and most timely aid in my work in the State Library, from several of the pioneer lawmakers of Iowa. First and foremost on this list I must place the name of my friend of thirty years, Hon. B. F. Gue, of Des Moines. Without his aid and encouragement I should have abandoned the work at an early day, when it became the object of a most annoying opposition. His son, Horace Greeley Gue, has spent weeks of valuable time in helping me to arrange the collection. It is due also to the able and discriminating pen of Judge A. R. Fulton, of Des Moines, that my work has become widely known to the people of our State.

I have received not only generous words of encouragement, but most valuable contributions from Hon. John A. Kasson, our illustrious Iowa statesman and diplomat; the Hon. James Harlan, one of our great United States Senators and the associate of Abraham Lincoln during the war; the Hon. Theodore S. Parvin, the most eminent and most successful collector of historical materials in our state; the Hon. William Larrabee, our retiring governor, who has given the work both private and official encouragement during the whole of his administration; Gen. Granville M. Dodge, our most illustrious surviving Iowa soldier, who has contributed liberally to the work, freely giving materials which will be priceless for all time; and our distinguished president, Hon. Edward Johnstone, for half a century a citizen of Iowa, who has aided me on many occasions in my search for those valuable memorials of the pioneers of his section of the state. To all whom I have named, as well as to many other appreciative friends of this work, my most grateful thanks are due.

The State Library of Kansas has preserved the portraits of all that state's law-makers, from its territorial days until now. Iowa has cared for nothing of the kind, though our people contemplate all these objects with deep inter-

est. Now, if you will kindly aid me, I will strive to the best of my ability to gather all that time has left us. I hardly need add that men, whose heads are so rapidly whitening should not delay a matter of this nature.

After the reading of the memorandum by Mr. Aldrich, Samuel McNutt, of Muscatine, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That as the early history of every state is a matter of great importance, and the historical collections in the State Library, known as the "Aldrich Collection," are now, and in coming years will be of great value, and the time and labor necessary to be spent in attending to the same, are more than any private citizen can afford to give without compensation, therefore we respectfully ask the general assembly to make sufficient appropriation therefor.

John Russell: Mr. President, I second the resolution proposed by Senator McNutt. I have been somewhat conversant with the efforts Mr. Aldrich has made in the past to make his collection as valuable as it has become, and have had the opportunity of knowing something of the great amount of labor and expense which he has so unselfishly devoted to the realization of his plan for giving to the State the finest and most extensive collection of autographs and portraits of distinguished men and women, first of our own State and of the nation, and of those eminent characters in other lands who have contributed to the progress, the intelligence, and the civilization of the human race. I know that Mr. Aldrich has devoted most of his time and much of his limited means in making this great historical collection. I am conversant with the fact that he has made more than one trip to Europe mainly with the purpose of securing valuable material which he already has arranged in the cabinet at the capitol. It is the great ambition of Mr. Aldrich to make this the crowning glory of his life. I have no doubt that it is already the best collection of autographs and portraits of distinguished characters to be found anywhere in the west, if not in the country. It would only be a slight recognition of his indefatigable and unremunerated services if the legislature now in session would give him a small appropriation to enable him to still further pursue the work to which he has devoted so much of his time and personal means. It will be a grand and enduring monument to his memory long after he has run his race on earth and passed over the river to that unknown life in the eternal future. It will only become properly appreciated in proportion as time moves on toward eternity, and the generations of Iowa will be able more and more to realize the great value of the collection as the procession of the ages moves along the highway toward the boundless realms

of the unknown. I hope, Mr. President, that the resolution introduced by Senator McNutt will be adopted.

The resolution of Mr. McNutt was ordered to be incorporated with and made a part of the report of the Committee on Resolutions. Col. Scott from that committee then submitted a partial report and read the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the committee of publication is hereby instructed to ask the General Assembly to instruct the State printer to print in pamphlet form for the use of the General Assembly and this association, 2,000 copies of the papers and records of this quadrennial meeting, including also in said pamphlet the proceedings of the first meeting of this association, held in 1886.

Resolved, That as the early history of every State is a matter of great importance, and the historical collections in the State library, known as the "Aldrich Collection," are now, and in coming years will be of great value, and the time and labor necessary to be spent in attending to the same, are more than any private citizen can afford to give without compensation; therefore, we respectfully ask the General Assembly to make a sufficient appropriation therefor.

Resolved, That John F. Duncombe, G. G. Wright and C. C. Nourse are respectfully asked to present this matter to the General Assembly by bill and memorial, and to secure favorable action, if possible.

Resolved, That we extend to all infirm and absent comrades of this association our sincere sympathy in their disappointment in not being able to meet with us in this reunion, and in an especial manner toward C. F. Clarkson, whose long continued prostration and suffering has excited this sentiment throughout the State:—that we pray for their speedy recovery, and that they and we may yet long enjoy these pleasant meetings.

Resolved, That if the representatives of the family of Ansel Briggs, first governor of Iowa, will assent to the removal of his remains to a suitable burial place within this State, that it is the sense of this association that the people, through the Governor and General Assembly, should provide for the same, and for a monument to his memory.

Resolved, That the regular meetings of this association shall be held biennially, at Des Moines, unless otherwise ordered, in February of each even numbered year; and the executive committee is hereby instructed to fix a date for the next regular meeting in February, 1892, to issue invitations therefor, and to make all necessary preliminary arrangements.

A message was received from the State Senate, carried by Senators Mack and Cleveland, inviting the old law-makers to come to the Senate, and the following resolution, offered by T. S. Parvin, was adopted, and a committee appointed to present it to the Senate:

Resolved, That the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association cordially thank the Senate of the Twenty-third General Assembly for their very kind invitation to visit them at the Senate chamber, and express their regret that by reason of prior orders and engagements we are unable to accept.

Judge Wright: Now let me say, while these gentlemen are here, that if they will be so kind as to say to the Senate which they represent that we should be exceedingly glad to see them here, and also the other branch of the General Assembly, at any time before we adjourn, and we will receive you most cordially and give you an old-fashioned greeting.

Senator Mack: I desire to thank the gentleman for his cordial invitation on behalf of the Senate, and will say that owing to the fact that our organization has been so long delayed and the press of important business, it has seemed unadvisable to adjourn and come and meet with you. We should be glad to do so if it were possible.

Rev. I. P. Teter: I see on our programme that the present assembly was to be represented. Some one, I suppose, was to represent the present assembly in an address of some character. Ought we not to invite the Senate to send somebody over here to represent them in our deliberation? I think I will be placed in an anomalous position. I am appointed to respond to the speeches that were to be made by the present representatives of the State, and I will not have anything to respond to unless they are represented; and we ought to ask the Senate to send over some one to represent them in an address before this body this afternoon, so that I will have something to strike at or respond to.

Gov. B. F. Gue: While this matter is under discussion, and in reply to what Brother Teter has said, it seems to me if these representatives of the Senate who are here would remain half an hour, that Brother Teter would deliver his address and they could act as representatives of the Senate on that occasion.

The motion of Senator McNutt in regard to the Aldrich collection was adopted unanimously.

T. S. Parvin: Inasmuch as we shall adjourn this afternoon, and cannot very well as a body visit the Senate, I think we should appoint a committee to visit them to-morrow. The committee, as representatives of this body, might appear before that body and present our compliments and make such general statements in connection with the legislation we have suggested here as would be proper. I move that such a committee be appointed.

Motion carried.

Mr. Teter moved that Mr. Parvin be that committee.

President Johnstone: If there are no objections we will name as the committee to visit the Senate, Mr. Parvin and Senator McNutt.

Music by the choir, "Beautiful Sea."

Col. Scott: While the strains to which we have just listened linger in our ears and fill our hearts I wish to offer this resolution, which, I think, will be heartily received by the boys that occupy the front seats.

Resolved, That we greatly appreciate the excellent music furnished by the choir, which has added so much to the pleasure of the occasion.

A rising vote was called for, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

A resolution was presented and adopted in regard to the work of the members of the Pioneer Association in Des Moines in preparing for the meeting, as follows:

Resolved, That we recognize our obligations to the veteran comrades of our Association in this city in so liberally providing for our comfort and the success of this meeting; that our thanks are due and are hereby extended to the various railways for courtesies extended to the Association, and to J. S. Polk for compliments of the capital city street railway.

Next came the address of Lewis Todhunter, of Indianola:

MR. TODHUNTER'S ADDRESS.

I will detain you but a little bit, as I have to leave at an early hour. The subject that has been allotted to me is the work of the Constitutional Convention in 1857.

It is well known to all of you boys as well as myself that Iowa, when it was first settled, seemed to be settled by democrats, and it has always been a mystery to me how that came, for it was said as long ago as I can remember that the democrats had no shoes, and how did they come here into this cold country and take possession of it before anybody else got here, if that was true? Now they must have borrowed moccasins of the Indians in order to get here.

A voice: They came by water. (Laughter.)

I do not see how they could subsist after they got here without shoes. Now I want to call your attention to a few articles only of the constitution that was made in 1857. The article on the bill of rights was changed somewhat, and on the right of suffrage it was left very much in the condition that we found it. But the article on the legislative department was changed considerably, and the executive department was changed radically. Under the old constitution the Governor held his office for four years; the new constitution reduced it to two years, and added to that executive department a Lieutenant Governor, which was a radical change from the original. The judicial department was materially changed. Before that time the judges of the Supreme Court were elected by joint ballot of the legislature, and that was changed to an election by the people. And there were other changes that were material. The article on militia was not interfered with. It was adopted just as we found it. The article regulating the State debt, which was the 7th article of the constitution, was somewhat changed. The old

constitution did not allow the State debt to exceed \$100,000, but the new constitution changed that to \$250,000, and not only that but it allowed the legislature to take in the school fund and university fund and become liable for those funds as a State debt really. That was a provision in the constitution. There is a very material change in the articles on corporations. There were but two sections in that article on corporations and that was all there was of it. The first one absolutely prohibited any banking in the State. No one was allowed to bank in the State and issue paper in circulation. Not only that but they were prohibited from using other bank paper in the State. That was the old constitution. That was materially changed as you all remember. The new constitution granted the right to the legislature to pass a State banking law, and also an independent banking law, but both of those laws provided that if the legislature passed a law of that kind before it should go into force within the State it should be submitted to a vote of the people of the State. And that was done. The legislature in 1858 passed a State banking law and also a general banking law, the first on the 20th day of March and the second on the 22d day of March, 1858, with a provision that before they went into force they should be submitted to a vote of the people. That vote was taken on the 28th day of June, 1858. The State banking law carried by a majority of 37,891 votes, and the independent banking law carried by a majority 19,972 votes, which shows very clearly that the people of the State of Iowa were ready for that radical change in the constitution with reference to corporations when this public vote was taken after the work of the constitutional convention. That is the 8th article of the constitution.

The educational article was very materially changed also, and the article with reference to the management of the school funds and school lands. The article on the amendment to the constitution was materially changed. There were I think only two sections of that article and those sections provided that if the legislature concluded it was necessary to amend the constitution they should pass a law submitting that question to the people to vote upon it, and it could not be amended in any other way than to submit the whole constitution again to the people. Now the new constitution provided that any amendment could be offered by either branch of the legislature, without any reference to the entire constitution, but upon any point that they saw proper. That was the change in that.

The 11th article was a miscellaneous article. I am going to call your attention now to the 12th article, that is, the article of the schedule. If I remember correctly there was more contention with reference to that article than any other, unless it was the one on corporations. That article of course had to make the arrangement for putting the constitution into effect, and it had to be provided in that schedule with reference to the officers that were in power at that time. As I now remember about it the schedule provided that the apportionment that had been passed two years before that with reference to the legislature should continue in force. That was one of the objections raised to that article. Another was that it should extend the time of the election of the judges of the Supreme Court until 1859, instead of the October election of 1858. The time of election was changed by the constitution from the first Monday in August until the second Tuesday in October, and some of those officers were to be elected at the first election in

1858. The provision was made that that portion of the Senate that had been elected the August previous to that should hold over until the next election in 1859, but that the entire lower house should be reelected at the October election of 1858, and under the apportionment that had been passed some two years before that. That was the regulation, and that was the bone of contention. There was a long protest filed, as you will find in the proceedings of the convention, against that article. And when it came to a vote on the adoption of the constitution there were seven of the members voted against the entire constitution. There were some other of the articles that there were objections to, but the schedule was the part principally objected to, as I remember it, except the article on corporations. But the reason for it was on account of this apportionment; and another reason was on account of putting the legislators, then elected in the lower house, out of office entirely and to have a new election on the second Tuesday of October, 1858.

That is the matter in brief, and as I have to leave here I do not think it necessary to say anything more to you about it. You can all understand it and read the proceedings of the convention and get it as correctly as I could detail it to you, and better perhaps. It is 32 years since that constitution was formulated and it is difficult to remember that long, especially a boy like myself. (Applause.)

It was moved that Judge McCrary's communication be read to the meeting.

John F. Duncombe: I would suggest that as this communication will be placed in our records and each one of us will have an opportunity to read it hereafter that perhaps the reading of the communication might be dispensed with. I think that would be more satisfactory perhaps than to read it. Therefore as I would not want to vote down a motion of that kind I hope the motion will not be made.

Mr. Aldrich: I move that the communication of Judge McCrary be published in the proceedings of this meeting.

Gov. B. F. Gue: Judge McCrary was one of the first persons invited to address this convention. He accepted at an early day. He prepared an address that is not lengthy, and it is one full of interest to every member of this association. Every citizen of this State honors Judge McCrary for his noble character and the good work he has done. I would like to have this address receive the same treatment that it would have received if Judge McCrary had been present. It will not take over twenty minutes to read it, and I hope we will pay the same respect to Judge McCrary in his absence that we would have if he had been present with us.

In response to calls of "Read" Hon. C. S. Wilson, editor at large, read Judge McCrary's address, as follows:

ADDRESS OF GEO. W. M'CRARY.

KANSAS CITY, MO., February 26, 1890.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Des Moines, Iowa:

DEAR SIR,—I am very sorry to be unable to attend the reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, as it would afford me great pleasure to be permitted once more to stand in the presence of an Iowa audience, and especially to meet and greet so many of the pioneer law-makers of the State, with some of whom I had the honor to be associated in the public service some thirty years ago. To visit you now, after some years of residence in another State, would be to me like coming home, for although I may wander beyond your borders, wherever I go, and however long I stay, my heart turns, and shall ever turn, with longing affection toward the home of my childhood, youth and early manhood, and the noble and generous people among whom I lived so long and to whom I am under so many and such lasting obligations.

I promised you that I would say something about "the old times and the new,"—a subject naturally suggested by the presence in your splendid and populous city of some of those who made laws for the pioneers when Iowa was, in great part, a trackless plain or an uninhabited wilderness.

The new times are in many respects as different from the old as they could be, if we were another people and inhabited another country. The younger generation will never be able to realize the mode of life of the early pioneers. Only the few who remain of that noble body of heroic men and women, who laid the foundations of this grand commonwealth, can recall in all its details the picture of the times of the pioneers. My memory barely reaches back to the territorial days, but I recall with vivid distinctness the struggles and trials of the early settlers.

The old times which we endured, and at the same in a certain sense enjoyed, during the territorial days, and the first decade of our Statehood, have gone to return no more. The new order of things is no doubt a vast improvement upon the old. It is better, far better, to have railroads, telegraphs, telephones, phonographs, electric lights, fine cities, prosperous and populous communities, convenient mills and factories, magnificent hotels, comfortable school-houses and churches, improved farming utensils, and the thousand other improvements which have come with the last quarter of a century, than to have continued in the primitive way of living which was inseparable from the life of the pioneers of Iowa.

It may also be that our social life has grown more delightful with the building of crowded cities, and the nearer approach of neighbors in country and town, but I must be allowed to express some doubt upon this point for reasons I shall mention presently.

I remember (some of your number will better remember) how we had to go long journeys to mill, and wait sometimes for days for "our turn," in the mean time camping in our wagons; how our newspapers, if we had any, came by slow mail, at long intervals; how we longed for news from relatives and friends in the older states, but could not afford many letters because the postage was twenty-five cents; how we waited patiently, week after week, for returns from presidential and other elections; how we were in a word isolated and cut off from knowledge of the current events of the outside

world; how we toiled and struggled to live, the men and boys in clearing, fencing, and opening for cultivation the new farms, or in building warm and comfortable cabins in which to dwell, or in planting and cultivating the vegetables on which we were to subsist, and the women and girls in spinning the flax and wool wherewithal we were to be clothed.

A garment not homespun was, especially among the farmers' boys, the exception, and if the term "dude" had been discovered we should have applied it to the possessor of such elegance.

I remember, too, when the school-master first came and opened his subscription school, and how the boys and girls often waded through deep snow for miles to reach this fountain of learning, in a cabin school-house, with those primitive seats made by splitting a sapling and inserting legs so as to form a rude bench. I remember, too, quite vividly, the very persuasive and effectual method by which some of those early teachers enforced discipline and maintained the inviolability of the "rules" of school which were regularly promulgated at the opening of each term.

The pioneers came to this new land, not in splendid railway coaches, moving at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour day and night, but for the most part in heavy wagons, sometimes called "prairie schooners," moving at the rate of less than that number of miles in a day. There was no crowd rushing into the territory and jostling each other in their efforts to secure the best locations. It was reserved until the present day to present the spectacle of railroads built into a new territory before it was opened for settlement and the consequent inundation of home-seekers who poured into Oklahoma, on the day and hour of the opening. Our pioneers had plenty of room and choice of homes in a vast public domain, as beautiful and fertile as any land upon which the sun ever shone. Let us note this one great advantage and blessing in the midst of the hardships and trials which they underwent. Nor did they fail to notice it. They were men and women of intelligence, courage, industry, enterprise and hope. If they had not been such, they would have remained at ease in the older States where they might have escaped the privations and hardships of the new territory. They looked with delight upon this fair land. They were inspired by the vision and were willing to endure all things to the end that their children, if not themselves, might do well in comfortable homes, in this land of promise. To-day their children are enjoying the fruits of their sacrifices.

I have said that the new times are the better, and yet I venture to affirm that the rugged discipline of the early days had some advantages over the present more effeminate times. I fear that we have substituted ease, comfort and luxury for the battle and struggle of the earlier days. But battle and struggle are necessary elements in the development of strength and vigor of body and mind. It is a fact worthy of mention that many of the strong men of our times were raised in the country and in early life subjected to the discipline of poverty, hardship and toil. Go into any of our great cities and inquire into the history of the men who at the bar, in the pulpit, in any of the professions, or in business, are leading the van, and you will be surprised to learn what a large proportion of them were raised in the country and on farms. I once sat at a banquet in Washington where the numerous guests, myself excepted, were all men distinguished in the public service, civil or military. The fact I have just mentioned being called

up, our host proposed to test the matter by ascertaining how many of his guests had in early life lived in a log cabin. The roll-being called nine-tenths of the guests answered "aye."

The hardships of the pioneers were, therefore, not without compensation. The education to be obtained in schools was necessarily limited, but the training and discipline acquired in the fierce conflict in which they were engaged developed true manhood and womanhood. There was, too, in those days, a genuine thirst for knowledge which enabled the young to make the most of their opportunities, and many acquired a thorough practical education without the "cramming process" or any of the other facilities and aids of our time. And so it has come to pass that so many of the boys and girls of the pioneer times are the strong men and women of to-day. They possess the physical and mental excellence and vigor which are only to be acquired by labor, by difficulties encountered and overcome, by battles fought and victories won. They were not pampered; they knew not the comfort and ease that comes with wealth; they labored to secure food, clothing and education, and when the task was accomplished, the fruits of their labor were appreciated and enjoyed. Their struggles toughened the fibre of body and mind and gave self reliance and courage. They were not without ambition. The glow of youthful strength and vigor engendered by their mode of life, filled them with confidence and hope. They acquired amid their unfavorable surroundings great strength of character. I would not willingly discourage the youth of the present day. They may have advantages and blessings which were unknown to the pioneer days, but they must, if they would be properly equipped for the struggle of life, remember the lesson to be drawn from the history of our pioneer days, as well as from all experience, viz.. that they must labor if they would achieve; they must not sit down and enjoy in idleness the good things which have come to them; they must not expect that character, discipline, strength, courage and self-reliance can be imparted to them by others, but must realize that all these must be sought and earned. Our youth cannot go back to the pioneer days and take upon themselves the responsibilities and duties of the youth of that day, but they may find work to do of a different kind, which if faithfully done will make them worthy to be American citizens.

I think also there was something in the social life of the pioneer times which we miss to-day, especially if we dwell in cities. When neighbors are few and far between they are appreciated. There was a heartiness and genuineness in the hospitality with which the pioneers greeted each other, and a thorough enjoyment of social converse, which is now to a great extent wanting. There was less formality, much less style, among the pioneers, but vastly more sincerity and heartfelt friendship. The pioneers were generally poor, but what little they had, they stood ready to divide with a needy neighbor. Borrowing and lending was universal, and very few failed to live up to their obligations. A visit in those days was a visit—not merely a call to pay a social obligation. It generally lasted a whole day, every moment of which was utilized and enjoyed by guests and host. I wish we could revive in these times something of this old fashioned good neighborhood and blend it somehow with our new surroundings.

The pioneers had few books and newspapers, but they made excellent use of such as they had. They read them "for all that was in them." It has

been said that Mr. Lincoln's early reading was almost wholly confined to the Bible and Shakespeare, and I see no reason to doubt this, for certain it is there is enough in these books, if thoroughly read, to develop the highest type of character. Mr. Lincoln in this respect, as well as in others, was a typical western pioneer. He read few books, but read them exhaustively. It is different now. We are fairly inundated with books, magazines and newspapers. We glance at our daily papers, noting the headlines and stopping to read an occasional paragraph of exceptional interest. Thus, we readily fall into the habit of careless, hasty and superficial reading. We do not, as the pioneers did, make the most of the reading matter which is within our reach; in fact we cannot, because if we read our daily papers, and current literature, with even tolerable care, we should have no time for anything else. It is, however, a serious question whether we should not select from the great mass, such books and papers as we can read carefully and thoroughly, and confine our reading to them.

The pioneers were without cities. I can scarcely venture to assert that this was a blessing, but I will say that it had its advantages, as well as its disadvantages. The population in pioneer times was almost wholly rural. All enjoyed the wondrous beauty and unbounded freedom, of a magnificent country almost in a state of nature. They were free from the restraints of fashionable society. Each man was his own master. Character, not reputation, was the standard of excellence. No man could hide himself in the crowd. The pioneers were known to each other through and through. Cities with all their elegance, refinement, taste and beauty, are at the same time aggregations of poverty, vice and crime. Our daily papers teem with accounts of the wickedness and crime of the great cities. Blessed is the boy who is reared in the country.

That matchless orator, Col. R. G. Ingersoll, in speaking of the early life of Abraham Lincoln, has beautifully and truthfully said: "People separated only by distance are much nearer together than those divided by walls of caste. It is no advantage to live in a great city where poverty degrades and failure brings despair. The fields are lovelier than paved streets, and the great forests than walls of brick. Oaks and elms are more poetic than steeples and chimneys. In the country is the idea of home. There you see the rising and the setting sun; you become acquainted with the stars and clouds. The constellations are your friends. You hear the rain on the roof and listen to the rhythmic sighing of the wind. You are thrilled by the resurrection called Spring, touched and saddened by Autumn, the grace and poetry of death. Every field is a picture, a landscape; every landscape a poem, every flower a tender thought; every forest a fairyland. In the country you will preserve your identity—your personality. There you are an aggregation of atoms, but in the city you are only an atom of an aggregation."

Here we have a picture of the bright side of the life of the pioneers. They lived amid the beauties and glories of nature; the great prairies were as we then beheld them, nature's flower gardens, and as they were moved upon by the winds they seemed like a floral sea, in which the billows were gently rolling. All this glory and beauty passed away with the coming of civilization and settlement, but it will be long ere the picture shall pass from the memory of any who had the happiness to see it.

Yes, the old times are gone to return no more. We cannot even find their like by searching for it in our new territories, for the new times are there as well as here. Doubtless we should rejoice, I suppose we all do rejoice, that the days of the pioneer have passed away forever, and yet I fear that, among those who remember best those days, this rejoicing will always be mingled with a sort of regret. They will, in spite of themselves, and against their better judgment, sigh when they think of the ample room they had, of the friends they cherished, of the freedom they enjoyed, of the bright hopes they indulged, and of the really happy life they lived, in spite of many hardships, in the good old times.

Sincerely wishing you a happy and profitable reunion, I am

Yours truly,

GEO. W. McCrary.

During the reading of Judge McCrary's address Messrs A. J. Chantry and Wm. Blattly appeared as a committee from the house of representatives of the 23d General Assembly and reported as follows:

We have the honor and pleasure to state to you that we represent the House of the 23d General Assembly, and invite you to the courtesies of the House to remain with us during the afternoon or during your pleasure, and are authorized to return your pleasure to the House.

Judge Wright: Mr. President, since we have passed a resolution in response to the committee from the senate, I propose the same resolution and the same return of thanks to this committee in order that they may know what our determination is. The gentlemen of the association all understand what the motion was and I need not repeat it.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Secretary was instructed by the president to copy the resolution and hand it to the gentlemen from the house.

On motion of Mr. I. P. Teter, the committee appointed to wait upon the Senate, was also directed to wait upon the House.

After the reading of the address from Judge McCrary was finished, President Johnstone called on Col. Abernethy for some remarks.

Col. Abernethy: Will you allow me to say, as my name does not appear on the regular programme, and as there are other exercises, I desire to ask to be excused from taking up any of the time of the association this afternoon. I understand there are further exercises that ought to take place and I therefore ask to be excused.

Judge Mitchell of Des Moines: I have a short resolution I would like to offer:

“Resolved, That our thanks are due and are hereby extended to the officials of the Central Christian church for the use of their auditorium, and to the ladies who have given us the fine repast to-day.

Judge Davis of Clinton: Mr. President, I have been told that you have no provision in your constitution, or articles of Association, or whatever you may call them for an executive committee. It seems to me that you need some such body, that there are duties to perform here in making arrangements for the Pioneer meetings that are to take place hereafter that will call for work from somebody and that somebody should be authorized to perform it. It is likely to be better done than if a man assumes to do it at his volition. I have a resolution to offer to that effect which I will read:

“Resolved, That an executive committee of three members be appointed by the president at each biennial meeting whose duties shall be such as usually pertain to such committees.”

Resolution was unanimously adopted.

On the suggestion of Judge Wright the President deferred the appointing of the committee until after the close of the meeting. The chair afterward appointed as said executive committee, Geo. G. Wright, B. F. Gue and P. M. Casady, all of Polk county.

An alto solo by Miss Lawton, “Old Folks at Home,” was received with applause.

Mr. T. S. Parvin: I have a resolution I desire to offer drawn out from the fact that so far as I have discovered in our constitution and prior experience of this session, no illusion has been made to the membership of this body who have passed away during the past four years. I was, while very much interested in the paper presented verbally by our good friend Todhunter, disappointed that he did not refer to the death of the six members of the Constitutional convention who have died in the last four years. It is customary in all bodies with which I have associated to have a committee whose duty it is to report at each session the name, together with the biographical or other notice of those who have passed away, and it is with the view that at our next biennial meeting we shall have a presentation of such names that I offer the following resolution:

“Resolved, That the President appoint in advance of our next meeting a committee of three whose duty it shall be to present a list of the members deceased during the recess and, as far as possible, a brief biographical notice of the same.”

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

B. B. Richards: I am reluctant to take even a moment of the time now, but I wish to offer a resolution on a subject, the importance of which I am very profoundly impressed with, a subject above creed or party, and I take it, and the legislature of Iowa would take it kindly from this body of men who are past all political activity, and who wish only well to the great commonwealth, and that it may have some influence in the schools by directing a policy on the part of the State that I think important:

“Resolved, That the common schools of Iowa are our pride and boast, and our State University we regard as a proper complement of our educational system. That we urge upon all departments of the state government such liberality as will make our chief state educational institution a university in fact as well as in name; an honor to the great state whose name it bears; the equal if not the superior of any state university in our country.”

Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Dr. S. G. Matson of Linn county: I was one of the Old Pioneers of Iowa. The Old Pioneers saw fit to send me to the convention that framed the constitution of 1846, and to the General Assembly of 1846 and 1847. In my letter of invitation I saw a notice that there would be five minute speeches. I have not said anything yet, neither do I mean to spend five minutes, but only a few moments. I was chairman of the committee on schools in the First General Assembly of Iowa. I got up the bill that located the State University at Iowa City, and I have been proud of the result of it, the educational influence in Iowa since that time. When I came here to-day I felt that an education from those institutions had raised up boys that were better able to talk than myself. (Applause). I have refrained from saying much here but I have a resolution to present. The resolution that my friend Parvin presented last night upon reflection I thought did not cover the whole grounds that ought to be covered. I was a member of the convention and of the First General Assembly, and I thought to myself that there were certain items of information that every individual member of all the legislatures up to 1870 might submit that would not come under that resolution, and I have written a resolution here that I would ask to be put in with those other resolutions, that every member of the Assembly, and every other one who has seen anything they think ought to be in the history of Iowa should present that item, and the thousand little items that are interesting will help to make out the history:

Resolved, That each member of this Association be requested to give the date and place of his birth, the time of his coming to Iowa, and such of his

public positions and acts as he thinks important in a true history of Iowa, subject to compiler or historian. If they are too extended let them be simmered down.

The resolution was adopted, and Dr. Matson continued:

When I came to Iowa we had no schools. In some instances they held their schools in their covered wagons, and there were mothers and sisters who were teaching their children and brothers and sisters in their wagons. Also we had no churches. But we now have colleges and such institutions, and our State has grown up a pride to the whole nation. As Iowa's constitution was first presented the Governors of different States came in and were anxious that we should start right. The Governors of the different States came in and saw me, as I was chairman of the committee on schools. The members from Massachusetts wanted us to pattern after Massachusetts, and so on. We can say now that they should pattern after Iowa. (Applause.) I am glad to know that the boys can now talk better than I can.

A. H. McCrary: Fellow pioneers, my mind has been impressed considerably while we have been listening to the little speeches, and I feel that it would be well for us to remember what we have done, the old pioneer legislators that began with the constitution of the State, and I must necessarily refer to myself very slightly. I was in the second session of the legislature in 1848-9; I believe it was the second. I remember that we were limited then to \$2 per day for our services. Our board and everything connected with the expense must come out of that. Then I was a member also in 1851, when we adopted the Code of 1851, as it has been referred to here to-day. I remember that we exceeded the fifty days that the constitution allowed us, and as we had not got through with the adopting of the Code we spent sixteen days legislating at \$1.00 per day. The constitution did not allow us but \$1.00 per day if we went beyond fifty days. We failed to get through in the fifty days and we remained sixteen days longer at \$1.00 per day. Then when we look at the privations and the sacrifices we made I feel like referring to the progress of the State with a small beginning. In 1848 and 1849 it was almost a wilderness where now fine cities have been built up. It was almost a journey in the wilderness to Des Moines, "to the Fort." I remember that teamsters had to take on provisions for their teams at "The Narrows," which was Oskaloosa. Then when we remember that we made these sacrifices to build up this country; when we remember that we were organizing schools and school districts from the very start; when

we see to what extent our school system has grown from this small beginning; when we find now that fine school-houses and well organized districts, colleges and universities are all over our State, we should be proud of the part we have taken in the early history of Iowa. I can remember when it was thought that Massachusetts had nearly all the learning in the United States, and now while their percentage of illiteracy is about three, ours is only one and one half. When we find the flourishing condition of our schools, when we find that our sons are progressed far beyond their parents, I feel proud that I participated in the work of the early days in this State. I have spent 53 years here. I came to this State when it was a Territory. I was here when the Territory was organized. I have never had a home anywhere else for 53 years. When I look over these venerable heads, when I know that they participated in that work, I feel proud that I had an humble part in bringing Iowa to this high state of perfection. (Applause.)

A. McPherrin, of Van Buren county: On hearing the remarks of Dr. Matson I thought I would explain how it came that he was appointed chairman of the committee on schools in the First General Assembly. I was appointed as chairman of so many committees that I resigned the committee on schools and they put Dr. Matson in that place. I entered a protest in the journal to a holiday of two weeks that the members took to go home. I was there all the time at work. I drafted the bill that was sent up on the subject of temperance at that time. I was then a single man and was there busy and I thought it was rather a bad thing for them to be away on a holiday and playing when I was there at work, so I entered a protest on the journal, thinking it was not right for our young State to go in that expensive way for a holiday.

Rev. I. P. Teter: I dislike to break in on this love feast meeting; I am a Methodist and I like to see these venerable fathers have a good time. There may be some comparisons in the brief address I have to make that will not be befitting because I was to speak for the old and somebody was to speak for the new; but if these things go out to the old, the old wont know but what the whole General Assembly and Governor Boies and the balance of the human family are all here. My friend, Judge Wright, wrote me a very legible letter. After two or three days I was enabled to discipher it fully, and in it he said to me to be brief, "ten minutes, boil it down, Bro. Teter." He is a good hand to send out notices. I will now proceed with my lecture:

ADDRESS OF REV. I. P. TETER.

The statehood of Iowa is less than a half a century. On the 28th day of December, 1846, Iowa was admitted into the Union, and the 4th day of July following the twenty-ninth star appeared upon the azure of the flag of the republic, and after these many years I am happy to say no act of her people has dimmed its glory. It has been assigned to me to speak especially of the old law-makers of this now great and growing commonwealth, and I might say our present proud position among the States of the republic is an evidence of how wisely and securely the foundations were laid. It will be proper to name a few of the builders from each department of State government. In the constitutional convention preceding the admission of the State we find such men as Leffler, Lowe, Saunders, Bissel, Grant, Dibble, Johnstone, Patterson, Hall, Edwards, Wilson, Harris, Springer, Price, Clark, Harnard, Parvin, Bailey and many others of equal devotion to principle, with no desire but to secure the best results and promote the highest interests of the people they were serving.

Beginning with the State government we find Briggs, Hempstead, Grimes, Lowe, Kirkwood, Stone and Merrill honored as chief executives of the State, each wise and patriotic in their respective administrations, unsurpassed by any of their successors in all those eminent qualifications needed for the high trusts committed to them. The judicial department of the State for the first quarter of a century presents a list of able and distinguished jurists: Mason, Williams, Greene, Wright, Lowe, Stockton, Dillon and their associates, the peers of their successors.

The legislative department has associated with it men of eminent ability.

In the national legislation of the country we find Jones, Dodge, Grimes and Harlan; men who gave our State a national reputation. I should not fail to mention those in the House of Representatives—Hall, Leffler, Thompson, Henn, Allison, Curtis, Wilson, Kasson, Price, and others whose names have become associated with the history of the republic. You see I aim to go backward from seventy, and especially speak of the ancient worthies of our State. Most of them are gone. Yet they builded for themselves a monument more enduring than granite, which is seen to-day in our fair State, as she stands in the fore front of the sisterhood of States, her civic record in war and peace all garlanded with glory.

I might refer to my associates in law making, among whom are G. W. McCrary, T. W. Woolson, James S. Hurley, John G. Foote, Gen. Leake, Shaffer, Burdick, Redfield, Smith, Angle, McPherson, Duncombe, Scott, Woodward, Ainsworth, Boardman and Warren S. Dungan, who I believe is the only relic of the past that is found in our present Senate. I am glad to see him so hale and vigorous. I shall always remember the lamented President of the Senate, the gentle, manly John R. Needham. These men I have named and their associates compare favorably with those gentlemen of the new, notwithstanding the more elegant environments of the present.

But, gentlemen and ladies, while I am not a pessimist, yet what we did makes it possible for you to do what you are doing.

Broad and deep and solid were laid the foundations of our State and upon this solid foundation has risen the grand structure of our great commonwealth. Her system of free schools, the glory of the State, was conceived

and born under the old and not the new law-makers. Our humane and charitable institutions received their birth before you appeared upon the arena. It is a fault of the age to look and treat with indifferent consideration the opinions and philosophies and acts of other ages; to axalt the present and depreciate the past and draw unjust comparisons, when in fact the old orators are the masters and teachers of to-day in the fields of polemic discussion.

The laws of to-day embody the ideas of Solon and Lycurgus, while civilization and the rights of mankind are far in advance, yet the basic ideas reach far back into the centuries. Bacon unlocked the door of science and opened the realms of thought and laid the foundations of all future possibilities in the fields of mental achievements. Newton discovered the law of universal gravitation and laid the foundations of the science of mathematics. Franklin, of whom Lord Chatham said "was an honor to the human race, is present to-day in all the various uses to which electricity is applied. I might multiply examples almost indefinitely in which the present is indebted to the past for all that makes the glory of the present century.

And so our State may, without almost a single exception, remember with pride all who have been associated with her history, politically, legislatively and judicially.

From the first appearance of our star upon the nation's banner, its radiance has shone with increasing brightness, until we now stand first in general intelligence, with less illiteracy than any State in the Union, with an educational fund of over four millions, with colleges, normal schools and universities, and all the educational equipment needed to keep step with our increasing population, and a people ready and waiting to meet the larger demands of the future; and while other States have been asking protection for iron, steel, wares, cotton, wool, tobacco, tea, coffee, Iowa has protected the home, the boys and the girls. They are worth more than cotton, wool, tobacco or rum. Proud Iowa, humane Iowa, philanthropic Iowa, with churches and school-houses and no saloons. Who would by ballot or voice bring back these breeders of nihilists? We hang the anarchists till dead. Shall we let the viper go free? Gentleman, I have not a political aspiration under the sun, and I would no political significance should be attached to what I say. The party or the individual that would bring back into our fair State this spot, this cancer, this foul enemy of the home and of mankind, is an enemy of his race.

As early, I believe, as '51, our State by the wisdom and courage of our Democratic friends then in power, seeing the evil of this foe, made wise provision for the protection of the people, declaring Iowa would take no part in the commerce of the sale of liquor; and let me here say, it stands as one of the most worthy deeds on record in connection with the Democratic administrations of our State and the old law-makers. I would that I could influence my Democratic friends to come back to their first love.

The highest interest of the State is the home. That country that can present the greatest number of happy, contented and prosperous homes, stands upon the most enduring foundations. So, gentlemen, let all party considerations, all love of power, all mercenary cravings for the spoils, be lost in that sublime loyalty to, and recognition of the rights and interest of every citizen, however humble he may be, remembering that the mission of

all civilized governments is to lessen burdens, lighten taxation and to educate the ignorant, and to reform the wayward and uplift mankind. To-day Iowa is in possession of all the material, intellectual and moral forces to insure increasing prosperity and larger influence in determining the destiny of the nation.

By special request, at the conclusion of Mr. Teter's remarks, Mrs. Bromley repeated her solo, "Bonnie Doon," which was again received with applause.

Judge Wright: I understand that there are a number of letters from absent members that should be read, but I suggest, in view of the lateness of the hour, that they go to the hands of the committee on printing and it will not be regarded as a disrespect to anybody whose letter is here, and I trust that the representatives of the press will give proper notice to them.

T. S. Parvin: I would like to say a word at this time. I think one of the wisest sayings I ever read was that made by Oakes Ames, to whom the world is indebted for the construction of the Union Pacific Railway. When asked what he did with certain bonds he said he put them where they would do the most good. Now there is no doubt that in the possession of many of these old Pioneer Law-makers there are documents relating to the early history of our State and Territory. They are doing no good in their possession and when they pass away the documents will be consigned to the flames. I have been long engaged in writing up the history of those matters and collecting such documents. My request is that all that are here now and hear me will take the pains to gather up those old papers of the early day having any bearing on the history of the Territory or State of Iowa. If they will pack them up and express them to me at my charge I will be very happy to receive them, and pledge my reputation that I will place them where they will do the most good. I had gathered together a very valuable library and collection. I passed over what was generally valued at least \$2,000 to the academy at Davenport. I donated to it my scientific library. I have donated other works to other institutions in their special line. I want to serve the State and I want to rescue from oblivion these old pamphlets and documents pertaining to its history. Will you not pack them up and send them to me that I may dispose of them in such a way as we think will inure to the benefit of the State?

Judge Trimble: It would hardly be proper on an occasion like this to enter into any political discussion, but I think it appropriate to rectify a mistake made by a gentleman who has addressed the

Association; my friend, Bro. Teter, whom I admire very much, stated that in 1851, the Democrats, who were then in power in the State, adopted a prohibition law. He is mistaken. What the Democrats in 1851 did was to abolish the saloon, but provided that all kinds of intoxicating liquors might be sold exactly as coffee, tea, sugar, calico or anything else. That was the law. I want to know whether my friend Bro. Teter indorses that kind of law, whether he would be satisfied with that to-day. If he would I think we could compromise with him.

Rev. I. P. Teter: I want to say that there stands on the record a statement such as I made, that declared that Iowa will take no part in the sale or commerce in liquors. It is there; so my speech is not subject to the criticism of Judge Trimble.

Judge Trimble: Now one more suggestion. I presume that every member of this Association read in the morning paper the fact that a gentleman by the name of Caldwell had just been promoted to the office of Judge of the United States Circuit Court for the Eighth Judicial Circuit. It is composed of the States of Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Missouri and Arkansas. Perhaps all of the members of this Association did not know that Judge Caldwell was one of the Pioneer law-makers of Iowa. He was raised in the State of Iowa, he was educated here, and studied law with Judge Wright—Geo. Wright I mean—and had the misfortune to marry George's niece. He was a Major, Lieutenant-Colonel, and then Colonel of the Third Iowa Calvary which he and I assisted in raising in southeastern Iowa.

Mr. Murdock: I desire one moment to correct an error which I made in my preliminary remarks here in reference to the proceedings of the last Territorial legislature of Iowa. I find upon refreshing my memory and consulting with some of my associates here that I was in error in stating that the first constitution was adopted by a vote of the people upon the second ballot. I find that not to be the case. The legislature had passed an act calling a constitutional convention. That convention assembled and adopted a constitution which the people, in consequence of the dislike that they had to the congressional boundaries fixed by Congress, voted down. The legislature previously had taken care to provide, in case the people voted that constitution down, for the election of another legislature which was to assemble on the first Monday in May. On the first Monday in May we assembled together in that legislature and we passed an act resubmitting that constitution to the people. That act Governor Chambers vetoed, as stated before, and we

passed the act over his veto by one majority in the house. The people again voted down that constitution, but we took good care to pass an act in addition to that providing that in case the people voted that constitution down again, another legislature should assemble on the first Monday of December thereafter. The people having voted it down, that legislature assembled on the first Monday of December thereafter and passed an act providing for the assembling of another constitutional convention for the purpose of framing a constitution, and from that second constitutional convention we had our first constitution. With these remarks, gentlemen, I will leave the matter with you. I do not care at the present time to say anything in regard to the last two sessions of that last Territorial legislature because it is a melancholy subject for me to talk about at the present time, from the fact that those men are nearly all of them now in their silent graves. Whenever I come in the vicinity of those men's sepulchers I intuitively express the sentiment that in those graves lie good, honest men.

Mr. Russell: Mr. Chairman, we passed a resolution some time ago here in relation to the Aldrich Collection, which was introduced by my friend Senator McNutt. That resolution contemplated some legislative action favorable to the collection and to help Mr. Aldrich. There was no provision made in the resolution, I believe, for bringing it particularly to the attention of the Legislature. I would therefore propose that the resolution be referred to the committee that has been already appointed to bring the matter of the publication of our proceedings before the legislative bodies.

Motion carried.

Judge Wright: I assume that we have substantially finished the work that we came here to do and we have come to the closing. You know it is arranged by the program that we are to have "Auld Lang Syne." I want all of these old law-makers, including the ladies, to arrange themselves along the two walls and come together in the center and all join hands while we sing "Auld Lang Syne," and when we have concluded the chaplain will pronounce the benediction.

Gov. Gue: In accordance with the suggestion I turn over to the Secretary to go among the archives of this Association and to be mentioned in this report the letters of distinguished persons who were not able to be present with us at this meeting.

IOWA, 1838-1846.

Hon. T. S. Parvin submitted the following list of persons still living who were connected with the various departments of the Territorial Government, from 1838 to 1846:

Of all the members of the Executive Department in all its branches, Theodore S. Parvin, private secretary to Gov. Robert Lucas, 1838-9, is the only surviving representative, in 1890.

Of all the members of the Judicial Department, in all its branches, Hon. Thomas S. Wilson, of Dubuque, Judge of the Third District, is the sole survivor, in 1890.

Of all the members of the bar of 1838, T. S. Parvin and S. Clinton Hastings are the only survivors, the latter now residing at Portland, Oregon.

Of the members of the Territorial Legislature the following are known to be still living:

1838—Dr. G. S. Bailey, Vernon, Iowa.

1838—Laurel Summers.

1838—Hawkins Taylor, Washington, D. C.

1838—S. C. Hastings, Portland, Oregon.

1839—Edward Johnstone, Keokuk, Iowa.

1840—Francis Springer, Columbus City, Iowa.

1840—Daniel F. Miller, Keokuk, Iowa.

1840—Alfred Hebard, Red Oak, Iowa.

1840—Thomas M. Isett, Canada.

1841—James Grant, Davenport, Iowa.

1841—C. H. Booth, Dubuque, Iowa.

1842—David Bunker, believed to be living in Illinois.

1843—Wm. Thompson, Bismarck, North Dakota.

1845—Philip B. Bradley, Andrew, Iowa.

1845—Richard Noble.

1845—Samuel Murdock, Elkader, Iowa.

1845—Fred. Hancock, Bonaparte, Iowa.

Of the officers of Territorial Legislatures still living are T. S. Parvin, 1840, and J. S. Kinney of Nebraska, and Wm. Thompson of Dakota, 1845.

1844—First Constitutional Convention—Elijah Sells, Salt Lake, Utah; Jas. Grant, Davenport, Iowa, and Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, Vernon, Iowa.

1846—Second Constitutional Convention—John J. Selman, Bloomfield, Iowa; Wareham E. Clark, ———, Iowa; Jas. Grant, Davenport, Iowa; J. Scott Richman, Muscatine, Iowa; Dr. S. G. Matson, Viola, Iowa; Alvin Saunders, Omaha, Nebraska. William Thompson, of Bismarck, North Dakota, was the secretary of this Convention.

Several of those named as members of the Territorial Legislature for the first year of service were members of later sessions, and some of them for several years.

The members of the Association now, in accordance with the suggestion of Judge Wright, joined hands around the room, and sang "Auld Lang Syne."

President Johnstone: I have just a few words to say, and that is that the great Giver of all good may spare your lives for many years to come; that you may all get safely home, and that at the next meeting of this Association you may all be here.

Judge Wright: Mr. President and ladies and gentlemen, I want to say as we are about to separate, that I forgive the President, I forgive Governor Gue, I forgive every person else for what they have all said about me and the slurs they have attempted to throw upon my chirography; they are all forgiven. And now, as it was my pleasure to welcome you on yesterday morning, so now in behalf of the citizens of Des Moines I return to you thanks for the great pleasure they have had in your company. Their wish and my wish is, that you may live to the next biennial meeting and all be here, and many more. One word more, we are all getting old; we in some sense are of the past; we belong to that generation that assisted, in part at least, in building up this great State. It is said—is it history or tradition?—that in the palmy days of one of the republics of old, when their soldiers returned from the battle field, and after a great contest and great victory they marched in the procession, and in advance were the old soldiers, and they sang in that Spartan land, “We have been brave;” and then came those of middle age, and they sang as they went, “We are the brave;” and then came the little girls and boys, and they sang as they went, “We will be brave.” Gentlemen, looking back fifty years ago, and thirty-five and forty years, we can say here to-day, as I believe and trust, “We have been true;” those of the present generation engaged in more active life say, as I trust, as they remember how much Iowa asks and expects of them, “We are true;” and when the younger generation shall come and follow them as they followed us, I trust, under the influences of our institutions in Iowa, that they shall continue to say, “The grand-fathers have been true, the fathers have been true, and we will, under the blessing of God, be true also.” I bid you, on behalf of the citizens of Des Moines, welcome here, and I trust that you will all return home safely.

With a benediction by Rev. I. P. Teter the sessions of the second reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers or Iowa closed.

THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS TO THE TWENTY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

In pursuance of the action of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association, a committee, consisting of Hon. T. S. Parvin, Hon. B. F. Gue, and Hon. W. S. Dungan, on Saturday, March 1, 1890, appeared at the door of the House and were conducted to the

Speaker's platform by Representative Holbrook, whereupon the Speaker presented the gentlemen of the committee to the House. Hon. T. S. Parvin then said:

Gentlemen of the House: It is my pleasure to present to you one of my colleagues, Gov. B. F. Gue, who is too well known to the people of Iowa to need a formal introduction at my hands. As many of you know one of the objects of our association is to gather up and preserve for record all facts and incidents relating to the early history of our State, and especially that portion pertaining to its pioneer legislation. Gov. Gue has, for many years, been engaged in collecting material for an elaborate history of our State, and every one who feels an interest in such a work should send to him such facts worthy of record as may come into their hands. I now give way to Gov. Gue, who will address you for our association.

Hon. B. F. Gue then addressed the House on behalf of the committee as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Theodore S. Parvin and myself were delegated by the late second reunion meeting of the Pioneer Law-makers' Association of Iowa, to convey a message from that body to the Twenty-third General Assembly.

We are commissioned by the old law-makers to express to the new, our appreciation of the invitation you so courteously extended to us, on the last day of our session, to visit your honorable body and exchange greetings. It was with deep regret that we were compelled to forego the pleasure such a visit would have afforded every member of our association.

The hour of our final adjournment was close at hand when your message reached us, and many of our members had already departed for their homes.

We beg to assure you that we appreciate the spirit of fraternal feeling that prompted the invitation, and regret that time would not permit a meeting between the law-makers of the past and present; and an interchange of the fraternal greetings that would have been fraught with so much of mutual pleasure.

Our association embraces in its membership a long roll of law-makers of a past generation, whose mission it was to enact the first laws ever placed upon an Iowa statute book; to devise the first, second and third constitutions for our Statehood. They gave us all our early codes, our common school system, our great State University, our Industrial College, most of our charitable institutions, our revenue system, and the innumerable laws under which our State has grown, prospered and attained rank second to none in the American republic.

When civil war came suddenly upon our common country, the old law-makers were equal to the direful emergency; they organized, equipped and officered as brave an army, 80,000 strong, as ever marched to the field of battle.

In short, they laid a foundation in the early years, broad and enduring, upon which has been reared one of the foremost States of the Union.

Their work has passed into history; how well it was done is not for us to say. Of that posterity will be their impartial judge.

To our successors of the younger generations we extend a fraternal greeting. You are the law-makers of to-day. Living under the light of the accumulated wisdom, that time suggests to all, we trust, and believe that your work will stand the test of impariial criticism, and bring added honor to those in whose hands it is intrusted by the people of our great commonwealth. In this hope and confidence we give you our cordial greeting.

Senator Dungan was then called for and addressed the House.

Mr. Holbrook moved to appoint a committee of four to draft proper resolutions relating to the meeting of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association, which was carried. Mr. Holbrook moved that the address delivered by Gov. Gue, on behalf of said association, be placed on the journal, and it was carried.

The committee also appeared before the Senate and, being introduced by the president, Prof. T. S. Parvin addressed the Senate as follows:

PROF. PARVIN'S ADDRESS TO THE SENATE, MARCH 1, 1890.

Mr. President and Senators of the Twenty-third General Assembly of Iowa:

The Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, Territory and State, is an association of gentlemen, who, in territorial years. 1838-1846, and the first quarter of a century, 1846-70, of our State history were associated in the executive and judicial with the department of legislation in the government of Iowa. An association organized and continued for the purpose of keeping afresh the memories of the past, renewing early acquaintances and cementing more closely the friendships of those who met and labored in the public interest, while yet you and others were young and preparing for the work in which you are now engaged. This association which so recently held its second quadrennial reunion, before its adjournment on yesterday appointed Hon. B. F. Gue, ex-Lieutenant-Governor, and myself a committee to wait upon your honorable body. We are especially instructed to express to the Senate the profound regret of your predecessors of the long ago that circumstances of such public interest—the inaugural ceremonies of the Governor-elect and of your honorable President—prevented them from visiting this body in obedience to your courteous invitation, and that for the same cause your honorable body could not have met us when in spirit, from the reading of the several papers so full of historic interest, your members might have been carried back to earlier days and learned from those who builded wiser than they knew, when they laid the foundation stone of that wise legislation which has built up the State and developed its resources and people which has not only given to Iowa a name as well as local habitation, but placed her in the front rank of her sister States for all those attributes which constitute a great State. Our Association, encouraged by the success which has crowned these two reunions, has resolved to make them a permanent factor in our State legislative history, and will probably hold them in the future biennially and during your sessions. It is also the desire of our Association that the old and new may become better acquainted and that you may learn by contact and association with the pioneers and fathers of legislation, some-

thing of their toils and trials, and be led to more highly appreciate the privileges you enjoy. We are deeply impressed with the fact that while your lot has been cast in pleasant places you are eminently worthy of the high trust our people have reposed in you. And we could utter no more fervent prayer than that when you too shall become old and look back upon your labors of to-day, you may witness as grand a success as that which has crowned the labors of those for whom we speak. We are proud of the past history of Iowa, in the Senate, the forum and in the field, when grim visaged war threatened the life of the republic. And feeling thus proud, in which you join us heart and hand, we are the more solicitous that the early records of the past history of our territory and State should be rescued from the neglect and oblivion so fast overtaking them. In this commendable work we humbly invoke your aid.

In conclusion let me say, with the great Corsican who, when about to engage and overthrow the enemy upon the sands of Egypt, addressed his brave soldiers by way of stimulating their hopes and inspiring their action to heroic deeds, in these memorable words, "Soldiers, forty centuries look down upon you to-day." So, fellow legislators of Iowa, of the year '90, may I say to you that forty years look down upon you to-day, and these years, so long in our history, so brief as measured by the dial of historic time, contain infinitely more than the forty centuries of old in all that concerns the welfare of States and nations or relates to the people who since then have gone forth to conquer the world to civil government, human liberty and progress, and develop the mind and heart of man for the enjoyment and blessings of this life and the hope of a glorious immortality in the life to come.

May these noble aspirations animate your minds and control your actions to the end that Iowa, the land of the beautiful, may be made more beautiful and her intelligent people more wise and better; that you have lived and labored for her good, and that you may see the flowers of your good works blossoming into ripened fruit which shall prove a healing balm to the poor and sorrowing of earth.

Our mission is ended, with the wish that you may long live to serve the public.

LETTERS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS.

HON. HAWKINS TAYLOR.*Committee Pioneer Law-Makers:*

The history of Iowa can be divided into two periods, the one being before what the world calls civilization, lasting about fifteen years, commencing May, 1834. During that period the settler had no use for locks and none were used except by merchants. I lived in the Territory fifteen years before I ever had a lock. I had a carpenter shop in the middle of Main street in Keokuk that had no door. The mechanics and laborers left their tools over night where they were using them and found them there in the morning. During this time Keokuk was often evil spoken of by tenderfoots, but no gamblers nor crooks were allowed to stop in the town. There was a vigilance committee which looked after these things and if a suspicious character came to town he was in the most polite manner informed of the hours when the stages and packets left and advised to arrange his business as soon as convenient, and he went without a second notice. I do not think he remembered Keokuk as a pleasant place of residence for his friends to settle in. There was very little filthy lucre in the town but no family was allowed to suffer for want of care. Doctors Millard and Collins were the town doctors. They attended the poor not able to pay and they attended those able to pay alike, and with equal care, furnishing their own medicines, and I do not think that they received more for their services in money than they paid for the medicines that they used. Both of these noble men are now in the better world. Those were glorious times of good will and fun. While living in West Point from 1836 to 1840 there was a Methodist circuit rider by the name of Cartwright that preached once a week in West Point and then went to Van Buren county. There were but few settlers then between West Point and the Des Moines timber at Baker's Point some fifteen miles. There was an Indian trail, and the dreariest road that I ever traveled during the winter and spring. It was open prairie facing the northwest winds sweeping down the prairie divide between the Des Moines and Skunk rivers, but Cartwright would once a week cross this dreary road on horseback, summer and winter, through rain, sleet and snow and often the thermometer far below zero, without a failure.

The first thing the proprietors of West Point in Lee county did was to build a log school house, large enough for a church also, securing a school teacher, and opening the door for any and all preachers, no matter of what

denomination. This was the rule and custom of all the settlements of the Territory. I built a brick Methodist church in Keokuk in 1844 or 1845, which was 40x60 feet, for six hundred dollars, and took the subscription paper for pay. I collected less than fifteen dollars in cash; the rest was paid in what could be eaten and worn by the men who did the work for me. I do not think any lady ever went to that church to either show her own, or criticise her neighbors' bonnets.

Keokuk since the days of civilization has been a great factor in politics in both of the leading political parties, getting and holding good fat offices, National and State, but with scarcely an exception they have been the men who were of the first era of settlement. Nothing to me is clearer than that the foundation of later success was due to the wisdom and foresight of the settlers of the early days.

The winters were days of amusement and sport of all kinds. "Sile" Haight was master of ceremonies in holding what he called "Yellow Hand-bill Meetings." Sile would get out immense hand-bills for a public meeting to discuss probably twenty different subjects, none having connection with any other, and charge 10 cents admission. Everybody would go and have a free and easy time. Each speaker would discuss any question he chose to speak on, and a man that graduated at those meetings was well qualified for any political convention.

In those days there was a class of lawyers that I do not believe can be duplicated in the state as lawyers. There was in Lee county, Reid and Johnstone, Judge Love, Judge Eno and Veile, Alfred Rich, D. F. Miller, L. R. Reeves, Gov. Lowe, Geo. H. Williams, G. C. Dixon, Sam'l R. Curtis, S. F. Miller, the ablest judge on the supreme court bench, Rankin, G. C. Mathews, L. E. Johnson; in Van Buren county, Judge Geo. G. Wright, Judge Knapp, James Hall, Big Headed Weld, Gen. Swazey; in Des Moines county, Grimes & Starr, Higgins & Mills, Breckenridge & Bullock, J. C. Hall, Bowlegged Starr, M. D. Browning, D. Rorer, W. W. Chapman, Shep Leffler, Tom Bowie, L. D. Stockton. Outside of the old settlers I do not believe the lawyers named can be duplicated in the whole state to-day. Secretary Noble graduated in Keokuk; Withrow studied law with Dan F. Miller; Mason, the brilliant and witty congressman from Chicago, is a product of Judge Wright's old county, Van Buren.

It was almost four years after the first settlement before the public land was surveyed, and there was scarcely a single settler suited in the survey. After the survey the cabin of one settler would often be on the same quarter section of another settler's farm. In some cases the quarter section, or 160 acres, located by the settlers would be in four different townships. Yet all these complications were amicably adjusted by the settlers themselves, and with entire satisfaction. Could this be done in the present days of civilization, if the old lines were abrogated, and new ones run from a different starting point?

The first Iowa Territorial legislature had in Gen. Jesse B. Browne and Wm. H. Wallace, as presiding officers, the peers of any presiding officers that I have ever seen in either house of congress, or any legislature. In that legislature there were James W. Grimes, Stephen Hempstead, Col. Wm. Patterson, S. C. Hastings, Warner Lewis, Gen. Swazey, Dr. G. S. Bailey, James M. Clark, and Gen. Frierson, all of whom have figured more or less

since. During the whole session I never saw a member under the influence of liquor,

You have railroads now; we had none then. You have banks now; we had none then. You have cushioned pews to sit on in church (if able to pay for them); we had rough benches—not good to sleep on. You have locks to your doors; we had our latch-string always hanging out. But there is no use following the comparison. * * * * The first lobby that ever invaded the Iowa legislature was when the “Owl family” located at the “Des Moines House”, asking that the grant of land given to the Iowa Central road, should be taken from that road and given to the Clinton, Cedar Rapids & Missouri. Crocker, the president of their road, naturally headed the invading army. He had been educated in service in Albany, N. Y., then and now standing at the head as a successful school in the education of lobby skill and cussedness. Crocker was a dignified gentleman in manners, and the color and cut of his hair, his large eyes and solemn aspect made him a perfect duplicate of the large wise-looking, dignified owl. Col. Bodfish was the turvy-top representative of the party. Bodfish was of large and commanding proportions, and his pose and deportment was to subdue the “rowdy west” legislator, Gov. Nat. Baker. The big-hearted, noble Nat. was the recruiting officer, and he had a small army of scouts to run down members, and sound the gong of the “Owl family.” It was a sight never before seen when this outfit, including the scouts, went over the river to the capitol. In the hotel they occupied several rooms on the lower floor, and the mustering officer and scouts kept the rooms well filled with members and others. I do not think that they drew largely on their bank account, but they were liberal in promising the land they were trying to get from the legislature.

They had a well stocked gift entertainment in the liquor line of all qualities. Bodfish as the department man, was the dispenser of the good things where the governor, members of the supreme court, and legislators were served. The smaller fry, still supposed to be useful, were served by the scouts. Gov. Lowe, being a temperance man, would not imbibe, until Bodfish, in all his department dignity, assured him that all of the devil’s part had been extracted. Bodfish assured the governor that the whisky that they brought with them to Iowa had all ran down a yarn string from the fifth story of a warehouse to the cellar, taking out all the impurity, and was known as “string whisky.” This was entirely satisfactory to the governor, coming from such high authority. The next day the governor told Judge Wright of the new and harmless kind of whisky that had been served to him by Col. Bodfish, called “string whisky.” Judge Wright, without a smile, questioned the governor about his “string whisky” as he would have questioned a witness, apparently feeling great interest in this new kind of innocent whisky. That night at a dinner party, Judge Wright told the story, as the Judge can tell a good story. The laugh was hearty, except as to the governor, who could not see where the laugh came in.

The only excuse for the Judge’s cruel sell of his noble friend, was that it was in the early days of civilization, and after all the governor enjoyed the sell, and loved the Judge none the less.

HON. J. B. GRINNELL.

GRINNELL, IOWA, Feb. 26, 1890.

HON. B. F. GUE AND JUDGES WRIGHT AND CASADY, *Committee*:

GENTLEMEN:—To my regret a throat trouble will prevent, not only speaking, but a personal interview with the early legislators. My associates in the State senate thirty-one and thirty-two years ago, were gentlemen of character, many of whom attained to national distinction. Alas! that so many have passed over to the silent majority! Senators Trimble, Cook, Pusey, Thompson, Gov. Kirkwood, and Gov. Saunders, of Omaha, could either of them tell of the sharp debate, lowering war clouds, and the enactment of a free school system, the corner-stone of our commonwealth, which I trust may be burnished anew down the later generations as the sardonix symbol of old, gleaming on the sacred ark of the covenant. This radical law, aiding in making a proud State record as to the intelligence of Iowa, I trust will aid in rescuing the soon dead actors in a memorable epoch from early oblivion.

I offer a sentiment: "Our free school system, based on a popular tax levy, the Urim and Thummim, polished and enduring sardonix corner-stones of our social and political State fabric."

Trusting you will with happy inspiration, have the good time which your programme promises, I am,

Fraternally yours,

J. B. GRINNELL.

HON. JAMES HARLAN.

MT. PLEASANT, IOWA, February 24, 1890.

MY DEAR GOV. GUE: Thanks for your note at close of printed statement relating to the "Second Reunion of Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers." I regret that I will not probably be able to be present. I have been down with a severe (second) attack of "la grippe," and am now only able to sit up a portion of each day. It is not probable that I will be sufficiently recovered in time to make the journey to Des Moines by the 27th inst. I hope you may all have a glorious time together, and live to hold many more reunions. With great respect.

Yours truly,

JAS. HARLAN.

HON. S. J. KIRKWOOD.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, February 2, 1890.

HON. B. F. GUE, *Chairman*:

MY DEAR SIR: I have a letter from Judge Wright requesting me to attend a meeting of the "Pioneer Legislators" at Des Moines on the 27th and 28th inst., and to respond to a toast, and he requests me to reply to you. It will afford me great pleasure to attend the meeting if I can, but my doing so will depend very much on the weather and the condition of my health. All I can say is I will go if I can.

Very respectfully,

S. J. KIRKWOOD.

HON. W. B. ALLISON.

UNITED STATES SENATE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 27, 1890. }

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 17th inst., inviting me to be present at the Second Re-union of Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, at Des Moines, 27th and 28th inst., is received. Many thanks for the invitation, but my engagements are such that it will be impossible for me to join these veteran legislators at the time indicated. Wishing you all a happy re-union and a pleasant time, I am,

Sincerely yours, .

W. B. ALLISON.

To HON. B. F. GUE, et al.,
Committee of Arrangements.

HON. JOHN T. MORTON.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, February 2, 1890.

MY DEAR JUDGE: I have not been able, until to-day, to decide that I see no chance to attend the re-union. I came to this conclusion with the most sincere regret. I would enjoy the occasion very much, but I am very hardly pressed by my business, and do not see any way to get off. Will you kindly mail me your dailies, giving an account of the proceedings? My best regards to Mrs. W., in which, with regards to yourself, my wife heartily joins.

Yours truly,

JOHN T. MORTON.

HON. W. H. M. PUSEY.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, February 26, 1890.

HON. P. M. CASADY:

DEAR SIR—My partner, Mr. O., has been confined for some days to the house, and business of the bank has been thrown upon me, which will preclude the possibility of being with you on the 27th and 28th. Convey to my old friends and colleagues my regrets, and hopes that they, one and all, may enjoy the re-union.

Respectfully,

W. H. M. PUSEY.

HON. T. B. PERRY.

ALBIA, IOWA, February 25, 1890.

HON. GEORGE G. WRIGHT:

DEAR SIR—I learn through the papers, and from Dr. Ramsay who received your card of invitation, that there will be a re-union on the 27th and 28th of this month at Des Moines of ex-members of the Iowa Legislature, of the Constitutional Conventions and State Board of Education. I would like very much to be present at this meeting and participate in its deliberations. I was a member of the Board of Education, having been elected at the October election, 1858, and remained a member until the office was abolished, some three years after that. I was the youngest member of the Board, and am not aware of there being any other member alive at this time except Judge Chase, of Hamilton county. I have heard that Judge

Ellis of Clinton, is the same person who was a member of the Board. Owing to our court being in session, I do not suppose that I can very well be present. If it is proper for my name to be enrolled as an absent member I shall be glad that it may be done. I trust, as I have no doubt, that you will have a royal good time, as the older we become, the warmer are our affections for each other.

Respectfully,

T. B. PERRY.

HON. J. SCOTT RICHMAN.

MUSCATINE, IOWA, Feb. 11, 1890.

HON. B. F. GUE, Chairman:—

DEAR SIR,—Your letters in reference to my attendance at the Pioneer Law-Makers' Second Reunion, on the 27th, and 28th inst., to address the reunion on the work of the second constitutional convention, have been received. I would have replied to the first letter before now, but have been, and am, quite unwell with the grippe, or something worse, and am getting better so slowly, if at all, that I feel constrained to decline the proffered honor of delivering an address. I am not equal to the preparation of such an address as the occasion would demand. If able to attend the reunion, I shall try to be present to hear what may be said, to take old acquaintances by the hand, and to enjoy the pleasure peculiar to the old—namely: that of "looking backward."

Truly yours,

J. SCOTT RICHMAN.

HON. WILLIAM THOMPSON.

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA, Monday, Feb. 24, 1890.

MESSRS. B. F. GUE, GEO. G. WRIGHT, and P. M. CASADY, *Committee of Arrangements*:

GENTLEMEN,—Your kind invitation to attend the second reunion of the "Old Law-Makers of Iowa," on the 27th and 28th inst. and take part in their deliberations, has just been received, and while I am deeply impressed with the compliment paid me by the invitation, and the pleasure it would have afforded me in finding myself again a participant in so desirable a reunion; yet, under the circumstances, and for want of a little more time, I find it absolutely impossible to attend. Having been a participant of your former reunion, four years ago, and having then learned that a recurrence would take place every succeeding four years, I had fondly looked forward to this one as an additional joyous occasion of meeting many of my old time friends, whom without such an occasion, I would never have an opportunity of meeting.

It is now over fifty years since I commenced mingling my destiny with that of many who will have the pleasure of this remarkable and enjoyable reunion; and while at the close of the rebellion, in which your noble state achieved her brightest and most perennial laurels, untoward circumstances forced me to seek a subsistence in other climes; still her wonderful history, her unequaled adaptations to all her subsequent achievements, her development of great men whose names are legion, her wonderful career in politics, her persistent struggle for the right, and her wonderful power in the national

government, have all conspired to fill the hearts of all her old legislators with pride inextinguishable.

Be pleased to present my kind remembrances to all my old friends, and with many regrets at not being able to attend, and with assurance of my vigorous health, I have the honor to be

Very respectfully,

WM. THOMPSON.

HON. ELIJAH SELLS.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, SALT LAKE, UTAH, February 24, 1890.

HON. B. F. GUE, GEO. G. WRIGHT, AND P. M. CASADY, *Committee*:

GENTLEMEN:—Your kind invitation to be present at the second re-union of the Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa, is received and in reply thereto say that I exceedingly regret that I cannot be with you. The distinguished gentlemen who have signified their intention to be present are names familiar to me, and names that I love to honor. I know of nothing that could give me more pleasure than to meet and greet with the hand of true friendship all those whom you have included in your invitation as pioneer law-makers of Iowa.

The memory of Iowa's early law-makers I shall cherish to the end of my life. My heart is with you. My official duties as Secretary of the Territory during the sitting of the Legislature now in session will prevent me from enjoying your interesting re-union.

Respectfully your obedient servant

ELIJAH SELLS.

HON. EDWIN MANNING.

KEOSAUQUA, IOWA, February 24, 1890.

HON. GEO. G. WRIGHT:

DEAR JUDGE—I regret I cannot accept your kind invitation and enjoy the festival of the early law-makers. Mr. Brown has been down with the la grippe for the past three weeks. I have to take his place, and I assure you it keeps me in the harness more than ever. Give my regards to the old law-makers.

Yours truly,

E. MANNING.

HON. JAMES GRANT.

DAVENPORT, IOWA, Feb. 27, 1890.

HON. G. G. WRIGHT:

MY DEAR JUDGE:—I regret to tell you that I am not able to meet with you. Remember me to the friends of my youth.

Your obedient servant,

JAMES GRANT.

HON. WILLIAM HARPER.

MEDIAPOLIS, IOWA, Feb. 27, 1890.

HON. CHAS. ALDRICH, SECRETARY:

MY DEAR SIR:—I regret very much that I cannot be with you during the second reunion of the "Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa." It would give me great pleasure to take by the hand the remaining few survivors of the 3d

General Assembly, and to review old friendships and associations of the 13th General Assembly. I remember with gratitude the uniform kindness shown me by yourself and your assistant clerk, Ben VanSteenburg. Wishing you all a jolly good time, I am

Yours fraternally,

WM. HARPER.

HON. JOHN G. FOOTE.

BURLINGTON, IOWA, Feb. 26, 1890.

HONS. B. F. GUE, G. G. WRIGHT, AND P. M. CASADY, *Committee of Arrangements*:

GENTLEMEN:—Your kind notice of the meeting of the Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa is at hand. I regret to announce my inability to be present at said re-union. I feel it my highest pleasure in my advanced life to meet associates and friends, and review the incidents and realities of old and former periods, and particularly the re-union of the earlier formative legislators who gave us the present influential and prosperous State of Iowa.

Yours truly,

JOHN G. FOOTE.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

[NOTE—The following sketches of members of the Association have been compiled mainly from the data furnished in the blanks returned by members. It is to be regretted that so many have neglected to return the blanks filled with the desired information. In some instances, also the modest lack of detail, on the part of members in filling blanks, has necessarily restricted the committee on publication to comparative brevity. It is expected to continue these sketches in future reports of the Association, and it is hoped that in due time every member will have a place in the record.—COMMITTEE.]

ALONZO ABERNETHY—Is a native of Ohio, born April 14, 1836; came to Iowa in 1854, and soon identified himself with its educational work and progress. When the rebellion came on he entered the service in the Ninth Iowa Infantry regiment, and held all positions from private to lieutenant-colonel. He saw active service in about forty battles and skirmishes, including Pea Ridge, Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Jackson, Black River, Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Seige of Savannah, etc. After the war he was elected from Fayette county as a representative in the Eleventh General Assembly. He was subsequently elected for three consecutive terms to the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, serving from 1872 to 1877, inclusive. He was elected to civil office always on the republican ticket. His present residence is at Osage, Mitchell county, where he is principal of the Cedar Valley Seminary.

LUCIAN L. AINSWORTH—Was born in Madison county, N. Y., June 21, 1831, and came to Iowa in 1855, engaging in the practice of law in Fayette county. He was elected State Senator by the democrats, and served from 1860 to 1864. In 1872 the same party elected him representative in the General Assembly. At the close of his term, in 1874, the anti-monopolists elected him representative in the Forty-fourth Congress from the Third District of Iowa. During the rebellion Mr. Ainsworth entered the volunteer service, and was captain of Company "C" of the Sixth Iowa Cavalry. He was engaged in several battles, including the engagement at "White Stone Hills." Mr. Ainsworth's present residence is at West Union, Fayette county, where he is engaged in his profession as attorney at law.

CHARLES ALDRICH—Was born in Chautauqua county, N. Y., October 2, 1828, and came to Iowa in 1857. He is well known throughout the State as a journalist, having been engaged in editorial work on a number of

prominent and leading newspapers, and the proprietor of several. He has held various responsible public positions in the State, serving as chief clerk of the Iowa House of Representatives in 1860, 1862, 1866 and 1870. He was representative from Hamilton county in the General Assembly in 1882-4. Among other civil offices which he has held was that of Des Moines River Land Commissioner, 1872-3, under State authority, and under Federal authority by appointment of President Grant, 1874-6. Mr. Aldrich, first and last, has either been the author or originator of several important measures which have found a permanent place upon the statute books of our State. Among these were the laws for the publication in the county newspapers of the statutes, sheriffs' sales, proceedings of boards of supervisors; for the change of county government, in 1860; for the protection of the birds, in 1870; and several other measures of importance. He also secured the passage by the House in 1882, of a bill establishing a State Board of Pardons, but it failed in the Senate. He was sent by Gov. Carpenter to Washington to aid in procuring legislation in behalf of the settlers on the Des Moines river lands. During the war he was adjutant of the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, 1862-4. He was the first secretary of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association of Iowa, and rendered efficient service in its organization. His greatest service, however, and that by which he will be best known in the future, is the service which he has rendered to Iowa as the founder of the "Aldrich Collection," now in the library rooms of the State capitol at Des Moines. This collection consists of autograph letters, manuscripts, portraits and Iowa historical data. The Twenty-Third General Assembly recognized the value and importance of his work by appropriating \$3,000 to continue and enlarge the work, and to collect and preserve historical data in connection therewith. To Mr. Aldrich has been assigned special charge of this matter, so that his present address is now at Des Moines, Iowa.

NICHOLAS BAYLIES—Is a native of Vermont, and was born April 9, 1809. He became a citizen of Louisiana, where he held several public positions, being register of the land office at Greenburg in that state in 1838, a member of the Louisiana legislature in 1841-3, district attorney and district judge for the 8th Louisiana district from 1843 to 1853. He was elected or appointed to all his public positions before coming to Iowa as a democrat of the Jacksonian stamp. In 1858, Mr. Baylies came to Iowa and settled in Polk county. He was elected in 1864 from that county as a representative in the Tenth General Assembly by the republicans. In 1866 to 1869, inclusive, he was a member of the Polk county board of supervisors, and was twice chosen as president of the board. At this writing he is living a quiet retired life in Des Moines, honored and respected by all who know him.

PHILIP BURR BRADLEY—Few men were more intimately connected with the early legislation of Iowa than Mr. Bradley. He was born in Ridgefield, Conn., January 5, 1809, and graduated from the high school when sixteen years of age. He then took a classical course in Union college, at Schenectady, N. Y., and graduated with honors from that institution in 1829. Soon after this he commenced the study of law under Hon. Reuben H. Booth, at Danbury, Conn. In 1834 he came west to Galena, where in August, 1836, he commenced the practice of law, and was appointed prosecuting-attorney by Gov. Ford, of Illinois, and was in 1837 commissioned postmaster of Galena. In 1839 he resigned his position as postmaster and

moved to the Territory of Iowa, purchasing three hundred acres of land in Jackson county. He then turned his attention to farming. In 1840 he was elected probate judge of Clinton county, but not caring for the office, he did not qualify. Three years later he was appointed clerk of the district court, and then removed with his family to Andrew, Jackson county. He held that office until the spring of 1845, when he was elected to the Territorial Council on the democratic ticket. In 1846 an admiring constituency sent him to the State Senate, in which he served four years with honor. In 1850 he was elected secretary of the State Senate by the democrats of that body, and held that office, or the office of assistant secretary of the Senate almost every session until the removal of the Capital to Des Moines. In 1857 he was elected representative, and served Jackson county in the first session of the legislature held in Des Moines. In 1861 he was elected county judge of Jackson county, and after serving one term, resumed the practice of his profession. Again, in 1877, he was elected representative, and served with distinction in the Seventeenth General Assembly. He then retired to private life, with the consciousness that in public position he had always been true and faithful in the discharge of his duties. His party in 1852 honored him as chairman of the Iowa delegation in the National Convention, which met in Baltimore, when Franklin Pierce was nominated for president. During his fifty years in Iowa, as Territory and State, few men were better or more favorably known among politicians, for he was always recognized as a leader in his party, and was an active participant in nearly all its State conventions. Mr. Bradley died at his home in Andrew, Jackson county, March 27, 1890, aged 81 years, 2 months, and 22 days.

OWEN BROMLEY—Born in Wales, May 20, 1825, and came to Iowa in 1827, settling in Jefferson county, where he was for some time engaged in coal mining. In 1863 he was elected by the republican party to the House of Representatives in the Tenth General Assembly. Subsequently he changed his residence to Pocahontas county, where for some years he was engaged in farming. While living in that county, in 1870-1 he was justice of the peace, and in 1872-3 was township assessor. He was elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the House in the Eighteenth General Assembly, being chosen to all these official positions by the republican party. During the war he served as a private in Company "E," Second Iowa Infantry, and was in the battle of Shiloh. During his military service he was much of his time employed in the hospital department. Mr. Bromley has always kept himself well advised in regard to political and public affairs, and is a fluent and ready debater. Some years after he came to Iowa he wrote and published a work in his native language, descriptive of this country, and especially of Iowa. The book was largely distributed in Wales where it attracted much attention, and doubtless induced many of his countrymen to seek homes in America. For a number of years Mr. Bromley has made his home in Des Moines, where he is engaged as an engineer.

VALENTINE BUECHEL—Mr. Buechel is a native of Prussia, the date of his birth being June 11, 1826. He came to Iowa August 19, 1850, and settled in Lee county. Up to 1860 he devoted himself to the profession of teaching, being a proficient German scholar. He was senator from Lee county in 1860 and 1861. Among other responsible public positions which he has held, may be mentioned the following: City clerk of Fort Madison;

member of the school board; member of the city council of Fort Madison; deputy treasurer of Lee county six years, and deputy recorder two years. He is a democrat politically. He resides at Fort Madison, where he is at present engaged as a solicitor.

PHINEAS McCRAY CASADY—Was born at Connersville, Fayette county, Indiana, December 3, 1818. He acquired a liberal education, and studied law in Indiana, where he was admitted to the bar. He was appointed a notary public by Governor James Whitcomb, December 4, 1844, for the county of Rush, Indiana. In May, 1846, he crossed the Mississippi river into Iowa, arriving at what was then known as Fort Des Moines, June 11th of the same year. In January, 1847, he was appointed postmaster at Fort Des Moines, being the first postmaster of the town. He was elected to the following offices by the democratic party: April 5, 1847, school fund commissioner for Polk county; in August, 1848, was elected State senator for four years, and served in the Second and Third General Assemblies of the State; in April, 1854, was elected judge of the Fifth Judicial District, which office he resigned in June of the same year, being appointed by President Franklin Pierce to the office of receiver of public moneys for the land district of Fort Fort Des Moines. This office he resigned in the spring of 1857. In 1872 he was elected by the General Assembly as one of the regents of the State University, and served in that office four years. When Mr. Casady became a member of the State Senate in 1848, comparatively few of the Iowa counties had been organized. His own senatorial district embraced the counties of Polk, Marion, Jasper and Dallas, and all the territory west to the Missouri river, and north to the Minnesota line. Mr. Casady has for many years been engaged in the banking business in Des Moines, and is the president of the Des Moines Savings Bank.

JEFFERSON PHELPS CASADY—Born in Fayette county, Ind., September 1, 1828, and came to Iowa in October, 1851, first settling in the town of Fort Des Moines, now city of Des Moines. He remained there less than two years, but held there his first official position in Iowa, that of deputy treasurer and recorder of the county, the two offices then being united under the law as one. He then changed his residence to Council Bluffs, which has ever since been his home, and was there elected in 1858 as county judge, serving four years. He was elected to the State Senate, serving in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. In politics Mr. Casady has been with the Democratic party, and was elected by that party as judge and to the Senate. He has held other responsible official positions, although he has never been inclined to seek office, preferring a business life. He has been admitted to the bar, but has devoted his time and attention to real estate matters, a business in which he has been successful. His address is Council Bluffs, Iowa.

SAMUEL HOWARD CASADY—Born in Connersville, Fayette county, Indiana, and came to Iowa in 1854, settling for a short time in Des Moines, but afterward located at Sioux City, about the time the United States land office was established there. He engaged in the real estate business, and also in banking. He was elected and served as treasurer of Woodbury county, and then to the House of Representatives, at the general election in 1857, representing the counties of Pottawattamie, Harrison, Shelby, Monona, Crawford, Woonbury, Ida, Plymouth, Cherokee, O'Brien, Osceola, and Lyon—the last named county being then called Buncombe. By this

election he served in the Seventh General Assembly, being the first session held in Des Moines. He was elected by the democratic party. Mr. Casady was lieutenant in a company of Col. Wilson's regiment in the northwest during the late war.

GREEN T. CLARK—A native of Tennessee, born March 25, 1823, and came to Iowa in 1833. He has held many public positions, some of which dated back in Territorial days, having held, among others, the office of assessor, in 1844 and 1845. In Marion county he served as a member of the board of supervisors, and was a member of the House of Representatives in the Fifth, Sixth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth General Assemblies, representing Marion county, and elected by the Democratic party. Mr. Clark is a pioneer of Iowa pioneers, and it is to be regretted that he has not given the data for a more detailed sketch of his Iowa life and experience. He is by occupation a farmer, his address being Pella, Marion county.

COKER FIFIELD CLARKSON — Born at Frankfort, Penobscot county, Maine, January 21, 1811. His father, Richard P. Clarkson, was a captain in the American army in 1812. In 1820 the family removed to Indiana, Coker, then not ten years of age, driving a team from the old home through the wilderness, the long journey occupying sixty-six days. They settled in the forests of Franklin county, Ind., and at seventeen, with fifty cents in his pocket, with the consent of his father he went to Lawrenceburg to learn the printer's trade. Before he was twenty he had the management of a newspaper, and in 1831 was the owner of *The Western Statesman* at Lawrenceburg, and was there the friend and associate of Henry Ward Beecher, who was then preaching on a salary of \$300. Mr. Clarkson afterward purchased the *Inquirer* at Brookville, Ind., and changed its name to *The Indiana American*. He was an ardent Whig in politics, and was a delegate in the Harrisburg Convention in 1839, which nominated Gen. William Henry Harrison for President. He assisted as a member of the National Committee to organize the famous campaign of 1840. He remained a Whig in politics until the Republican party was organized and then became identified with the new party, with which he remained the rest of his life. He retired from the *American* in 1854, and spent a year in assisting to build a railroad. In 1855 he removed with his family to Grundy county, Iowa, where he became a farmer on a large scale. There he lived until 1878, when he removed to Des Moines. In 1864 and 1866 he was a member of the State Senate from Grundy county. He was always prominent as an agricultural worker, and acted a conspicuous part in organizing the State Agricultural College, always taking great interest in its success. He was a forcible writer and an authority on matters pertaining to agriculture, and for many years edited a department on that subject in *The State Register* at Des Moines. He died at his home in Des Moines, May 7, 1890, after a long and useful life, leaving to the world an example of the highest and noblest type of manhood.

S. K. CREMER—A native of Pennsylvania, born in 1818, and came to Iowa in 1845, entitling him certainly to be classed among her pioneers. He represented Wapello county in the House of Representatives in 1858 and 1860. Being a farmer and stock raiser by occupation he has always taken a leading interest in the development of these great Iowa interests. He has taken a prominent part at State and county fairs, and has served as the presi-

dent of the Wapello County Agricultural Society. He resides near Agency, Wapello county, where he is engaged and prospering as a farmer.

JOHN L. DANA—Was born in Ohio, March 25, 1826, and came to Iowa in 1852. He represented Story county in the Iowa House of Representatives in 1858–1860, being elected by the Republican party. He has also served as a member of the local Board of Education and as Mayor of Nevada, as well as in other public positions of trust and importance. He was not in active military service, but during the Rebellion when Iowa was threatened with invasion by rebel bands from the south he raised a company of ninety men under the State law for State protection, and was elected captain, with John M. Brainard and Isaac Walker as lieutenants. Mr. Dana has been for over thirty-six years engaged in the practice of the law. His address is Nevada, Story county, Iowa.

MARK A. DASHIEL—He was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, October 7, 1826. The first sixteen years of his life were spent on a farm with his parents. He then for some time held a position in a drug store, after which he studied medicine, and graduated in 1851. The same year he married a daughter of Dr. B. S. Noble, and niece of Gov. Noble of Indiana. In 1853 he came to Iowa, and located at Hartford, Warren county, engaging there in the practice of his profession. In politics he was a whig prior to the organization of the Republican party but early identified himself with the latter party. By the suffrages of that party he has served his county in the House of Representatives of the Twelfth General Assembly, and in the Senate of the Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth General Assemblies. His present address is Indianola where he is still engaged in the practice of his profession.

GEORGE M. DAVIS—Was born in Ohio, October 1, 1820, but when fourteen years of age removed to Indiana. In 1844 and 1845 he was journal clerk of the Indiana House of Representatives, being elected to that position by the Whigs. In July, 1855, he came to Iowa, and located at Lyons, Clinton county. He was elected State Senator in 1857, and served in the regular sessions of 1858 and 1860, as well as in the extra session of 1861, being elected by the Republicans. In 1861 he was appointed postmaster of Lyons, and served in that position until in 1867. Mr. Davis has generally been engaged in farming and saw-milling, but of late years is inclined to retire from active business.

JOHN F. DUNCOMBE—Born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1831, and came to Iowa in April, 1855, locating at Fort Dodge, then a small frontier village. He has served in both houses of the General Assembly, commencing his legislative career as State Senator from 1860 to 1864, and representing a district embracing a number of counties in northwestern Iowa. He was a member of the House of Representatives from 1872 to 1874, and again from 1880 to 1882. He has also been for eighteen years one of the regents of the State University. He has always been an active Democrat in politics, and was elected to both the Senate and the House on the Democratic ticket, in the latter branch of the Legislature representing Webster county. In the Spirit Lake expedition, in March, 1857, he was commissioned by Governor Grimes as captain of Company B in the battalion commanded by Major William Williams. When the Pioneer Law-makers' Association was organized in February, 1886, Mr. Duncombe was elected the first presi-

dent of the Association, his term expiring with the election of his successor, the Hon. Edward Johnstone, at the second re-union in February, 1890. He is an attorney by profession, actively engaged in practice. His address is Fort Dodge, Iowa.

ARIOL KENDRICK EATON—Was born December 1, 1813, in Sutton, Merrimack county, N. H. He received his early training and education in the select or high schools at South Sutton, Franklin, South New Market and Claremont, all in New Hampshire. He then became a teacher, and taught schools in his native State, and in Massachusetts and Ohio. In the last named State he studied law, and was admitted to the bar in Indiana in 1842. In 1841, however, he had been elected county auditor of Randolph county, Indiana, and was re-elected to the same office, but resigned it in 1844, removing to Iowa in June of the same year. In 1847 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Delaware county, Iowa, and probate judge of that county the same year. He was the first mayor of the town of Delhi, and was elected to the legislature of Iowa in 1850, and again in 1852. March 5, 1855, he was appointed receiver of public moneys for the Turkey River Land District, and served in that position until January 15, 1858, when he resigned, the land office for that district being located at Decorah and Osage during his term of service. When he was elected representative in 1850 his district embraced the counties of Dubuque, Delaware, Buchanan and Black Hawk, and a territory very much larger than that which those counties now include, for his district extended west to the Des Moines, and north to the Minnesota line. During his long residence in Iowa, Mr. Eaton has practiced law, taught school, farmed, and engaged in land surveying. He is the author of a series of very interesting papers on early legislation in Iowa. He held his public positions as a democrat, but being a popular man he always captured many votes from the opposite party. His present residence is at Osage, Mitchell county.

NORMAN EVERSON—Born in Oneida county, N. Y., December 28, 1815, and came to Iowa in 1841. He was among the pioneer settlers of Washington county, where he early engaged in the practice of his profession, the law. In 1850-1-2-3 he served as State Senator, being elected as a Whig to represent the district then composed of Louisa and Washington counties. Having retired from the practice of his profession, he is comfortably spending his time at the home of his almost half a century of Iowa life, and like other pioneers, loves to look back and review the wonderful progress of the State with whose early history he has been identified. His address is Washington, Iowa.

SEWALL S. FARWELL—Was born in Ohio, April 26, 1834, and came to Iowa in 1852. When the civil war broke out he at once identified himself on the side of the Union, and August 14, 1862, was elected captain of Company "H," Thirty-first Iowa Infantry. He served until the close of the war and was commissioned major of an Iowa regiment. Among the engagements in which he participated were Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, Siege of Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro, and the March to the Sea. Since the war he has been honored with many civil trusts being, elected State Senator from Jones county in 1865, serving in the sessions of 1866 and 1868. In 1869 he was appointed assessor of internal revenue for the Second Iowa District, and

served four years. February 1, 1875, he was appointed collector of internal revenue, and served six years. In 1880 he was elected to congress. All these civil offices he held by preferment of the republican party. At present he is farming and dealing in real estate, and resides at Monticello, Jones county.

AMOS S. FAVILLE—The subject of this sketch was born in the State of New York, February 21, 1823, and became a citizen of Iowa in June, 1854. He became a Republican in politics when the party was first organized, and has been honored by it with various positions of trust and responsibility. In 1854 he was elected a justice of the peace, and the next year county surveyor of Mitchell county. In 1862 he was elected county supervisor, and held the office of county judge in 1866-8. In 1869 he was elected county auditor of Mitchell county, and the next year represented his county as a member of the House in the Thirteenth General Assembly. Mr. Faville's occupation is farming, and resides at Osage, Mitchell county.

ORAN FAVILLE—Was born in Herkimer county, N. Y., October 13, 1817. His early life was spent upon a farm, where he received the rudiments of his education in the district schools, and engaged in teaching. Subsequently he attended the higher institutions, and graduated from Wesleyan University, at Middletown, Conn. After this he held professorships in various colleges, and was president of the Wesleyan Female College at Delaware, Ohio, but on account of poor health resigned in 1855, and removed to Mitchell county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming. In 1857 he was elected the second county judge of that county, and the same year was elected Iowa's first Lieutenant-Governor, and became *ex-officio* President of the State Board of Education, then newly organized. In April, 1863, he became acting secretary of the board, and in the following January was appointed secretary by Gov. Kirkwood to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Thomas H. Benton, Jr. In 1863 he was appointed one of the Board of Visitors to the Military Academy at West Point. In 1864 he was elected by the General Assembly Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Board of Education having been abolished. He was re-elected to the same office by the people in 1865, but resigned in 1867 on account of ill health. In 1867 he removed from Des Moines, where he had resided since 1863, to Waverly, Bremer county. He remained there in retirement until his death, which occurred October 31, 1872. In addition to his public official positions, he was the President of the State Teachers' Association in 1864-5, and was editor of *The Iowa School Journal* from 1863 to 1867. July 24, 1845, he was married to Miss Maria M. Peck, of DeWitt, N. Y.

AMBROSE C. FULTON—Is a native of Pennsylvania, born July 7, 1811, and passed his early years in that State and in the city of New Orleans, La. When he was a young man, residing in New Orleans, he raised troops and aided Texas in her resistance against Mexico. He came to Davenport, Iowa, in July, 1842. He served as alderman of that city, and in 1849 was a member of the Board of Commissioners of Scott county. In 1854 and 1855 he was a member of the State Senate, and in 1861, was commissioned by Simon Cameron, Secretary of War, as military engineer. Mr. Fulton has long been known and recognized as one of the most public spirited and enterprising business men of Davenport. He is now living in retirement in

that city. He has been an ardent Republican since the organization of the party, and was previously a Whig.

ALEXANDER R. FULTON—Born in Ross county, Ohio, October 11, 1825, and came to Fairfield, Iowa, in February, 1851. Has been engaged in newspaper work, but also served ten years as county surveyor of Jefferson county, and four years as county judge of the same county. He was a clerk in the Iowa House of Representatives during the last three sessions held at Iowa City, including the extra session of 1856. He was elected by the Republicans, from Jefferson county, as Representative in the Twelfth General Assembly, and soon after located in Des Moines, when he was for some time employed on the *Iowa State Register*. When the State Board of Immigration was organized in 1870, he was made its secretary, and served in that position four years, and also held the position of secretary of the first Board of Commissioners having in charge the construction of the present new State Capitol. He is the author of a valuable and interesting volume entitled, "Red Men of Iowa," in which years ago he carefully gathered up all attainable information relative to the manners, customs and history of the Indian tribes who occupied this territory seventy or eighty years ago. This book is illustrated with portraits of a great number of representative Indians who lived at that time, or prior to the first white settlements. It is a most valuable repository of facts on the subject of which it treats. He is now, and has been for many years the editor of the Western Newspaper Union, at Des Moines. At the second re-union of the Pioneer Law-makers Association of Iowa, he was made the secretary for the ensuing term. Address, Des Moines, Iowa.

WASHINGTON GALLAND—Was born in Illinois, July 20, 1827, but came with his parents the same year to what is now Iowa, locating at what is known as Galland's Point in Lee county, in 1829. His father was Dr. Isaac Galland, who published a newspaper at an early day in Lee county, and was the author of many valuable articles concerning the various Indian tribes of the west. The subject of this notice, Washington Garland, was elected by the Republicans a representative from Lee county in the Tenth General Assembly, 1863. As a Republican he held by appointment the office of District Attorney in Missouri, in 1865-6. He was also mayor of Bolivar, Mo., in 1867-8, being elected on the citizen's ticket. In Lee county, Iowa, he has been justice of the peace, and held various minor offices. In 1870 he was a candidate for judge of the circuit court in the Seventh judicial district of Missouri, and carried his own county of Polk by a large majority, but was defeated on account of doubts raised by attorneys, as to residence qualifications, and Mr. Galland has since expressed his opinion that they were right. After residing in Missouri for several years, he returned to Iowa, and again settled in Lee county. The Republicans, in 1887, nominated him for representative in the Twenty-Second General Assembly, but he was defeated by his popular Democratic opponent, J. E. Craig. Mr. Galland has served his country in two wars. In 1846-8, he served as private, adjutant's clerk, and sergeant-major, in Capt. W. L. F. McNair's Co. A, Third regiment of Missouri mounted volunteers in the war with Mexico. At that time he crossed the Great Desert Plains; penetrated into New and Old Mexico; participated in the battle of Santa Cruz de Rosalles, and other minor engagements. At the close of that war he returned to Iowa and cast his

first presidential vote for Gen. Zachary Taylor. During the war of the rebellion he served as captain Co. H, Sixth regiment Iowa Infantry. He is an attorney at law by profession, and resides at Fort Madison, Lee county.

STEPHEN Y. GOSE—Born in Virginia, October 11, 1826, and came to Iowa in 1849. Has held various public offices in Warren county, including several terms as justice of the peace, and three as a member of the county board of supervisors, two terms of which he was the chairman of the board. In 1863 he was elected a member of the House of Representatives from Marion county, and served in the Tenth General Assembly. He was elected as a Republican to all of the above named positions. By occupation Mr. Gose is a farmer, his address being Pleasantville, Iowa.

ISAAC W. GRIFFITH—He was born in Turnbull county, Ohio, April 2, 1820. In early life he worked at the carpenter's trade. He came to Iowa October 10, 1838, settling in Lee county, where he spent a year on a farm. He then engaged in his trade as a carpenter, which he continued until the Mexican war. He has both a civil and military record. In 1842-3-4-5 he served as justice of the peace and coroner in Lee county. In May, 1847, he enlisted in Company K, 15th U. S. Infantry, for the Mexican war, and was engaged in the battles of Contreras, Cherubusco and Chapultepec, under Gen. Winfield Scott. On the organization of his company he was appointed corporal, and in July, 1847, was promoted to sergeant. He was wounded in the battle of Cherubusco, August 20, 1847, and lost his right arm as the result. On the 15th of September he entered the City of Mexico, and on the 1st of November received his discharge, when he returned home to Iowa. In August, 1848, he was elected to the House of Representatives of the Second General Assembly on the Democratic ticket, and participated in the election of Iowa's first United States Senator, Hon. Geo. W. Jones. Since that date he has held many other positions of honor and responsibility. Among them were deputy sheriff of Lee county, assistant door-keeper of the United States Senate, five years on the Capitol police force in Washington, register of the U. S. Land office at Des Moines, sheriff of Polk county, in the quartermaster's department during the civil war, deputy U. S. marshal in the western district of Tennessee. Since 1858 his home has been in Des Moines. Since the war he has been identified with the Republican party, and is still an active participant in political matters. In September, 1840, he married Miss Eoles Brand, of West Point, Lee county, and in September, 1890, the Captain and his wife celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedded life, receiving the congratulations of hundreds of their friends, some of whom were friends of half a century. Capt. Griffith still resides at Des Moines.

BENJAMIN F. GUE—Born in the State of New York, December 25, 1828, and came to Iowa in 1852, settling in Scott county. He has held many responsible public offices, and among them the following: Representative in the State Legislature of Iowa, 1858 to 1862; State senator, 1862 to 1866, being elected both as representative and senator from Scott county. From 1866 to 1868 he was lieutenant-governor of Iowa. Having changed his residence, in 1864, to Fort Dodge, where he established a newspaper called the *Northwest*, he in 1865, became postmaster of that city. From 1866 to 1870 he was president of the board of trustees of the State Agricultural College, having been one of the founders of that institution. After this he removed to Des

Moines, and from 1873 to 1881 was United States pension agent for Iowa and Nebraska. Gov. Gue was reared on a farm, but received a good education at the Canandaigua Academy and at East Bloomfield. Being himself a practical farmer he has always taken great interest in the promotion of this vital and leading industry of Iowa, and as editor of the *Homestead* was known as an agricultural writer of force and ability. He is zealous in his efforts to rescue from loss and oblivion the long neglected data pertaining to the pioneers and the early history of Iowa, and is now engaged in writing a history of the State.

NEWTON GUTHRIE—Was born in Virginia in 1822, and came to Iowa in 1847. He has held various public offices by the suffrages of both the democratic and republican parties, in Warren county, where he resides. Among the minor positions which he has held may be mentioned the offices of surveyor, justice of the peace, township trustee and clerk, assessor, and member of the board of supervisors. In 1861 he was elected by the republicans as representative from Warren county in the Ninth General Assembly. He is one of the pioneers of Warren county, and a farmer by occupation. His present address is at Hartford, Warren county.

ALFRED HEBARD—This pioneer legislator of Iowa is a native of Connecticut, born May 10, 1811. He came to Iowa in 1838, and was for many years a resident of Des Moines county. He served in the last two territorial legislatures, and in the House of Representatives of the first and several subsequent State legislatures, being elected from Des Moines county. Later, having changed his residence to Red Oak, Montgomery county, he was elected State senator in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth General Assemblies from the counties of Montgomery, Adams and Page. He was also elected senator in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth General Assemblies from the counties of Montgomery and Mills. During the war he was engaged in railroad service in Missouri and Tennessee. His present residence is at Red Oak, Montgomery county, where he is occupied in the management and care of a competency, and takes great pleasure in recalling the scenes and incidents of Iowa's progress, in which he has himself been a prominent actor.

PARIS P. HENDERSON—Was born at Liberty, Union county, Ind., January 3, 1825. He was educated in the common schools, but at the age of eighteen learned the tanner's trade in Illinois. In 1849 he settled in Warren county, Iowa, and later was appointed the organizing sheriff of that county, and held that office until elected State senator in 1859. He served as senator in the regular session of 1860, and the special session of 1861, but resigned and entered the volunteer service as captain of Company "G," Tenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was promoted to be colonel of the same regiment in February, 1863. He was in actual fighting service at Charleston, Missouri; Island No. 10; Corinth, Iuka, Vicksburg, Jackson, Champion Hills, Mission Ridge, and in the Atlanta and Savannah campaign. After the war he served as treasurer of Warren county, and more recently as mayor of Indianola. Col. Henderson has held his various civil offices at the hands of the republican party. His residence is at Indianola, where he is engaged in the real estate business.

JOHN F. HOPKINS—Was born in Ohio, October 4, 1821, and came to Iowa in 1854. He represented Boone county in the House of Representa-

tives of the Thirteenth General Assembly, and has held many minor, but responsible, positions in his county. He is engaged in agricultural pursuits. He resides at Madrid, Boone county.

EDWARD JOHNSTONE — He was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., July 4, 1815, and came to Iowa in July, 1837, settling in Lee county, where he engaged in the practice of his profession, the law. He has ever since been prominent in the history of Iowa, having held many official positions, generally by the suffrages of the Democratic party, of which he has been and is still an active member. In 1837-8 he served on a commission appointed to adjust the claims of parties regarding disputed rights on what was known as the "half-breed tract" of land in Lee county. He was elected on a non-partisan ticket as a member of the Territorial House of Representatives in 1839, and by the Democratic party to the Territorial Council in 1840. Afterward he served as United States Attorney by appointment of President Polk. He also served as county judge of Lee county by election on the Democratic ticket, and as mayor of the city of Fort Madison, on the Democratic ticket, without opposition. In 1857 he was elected to the convention that framed Iowa's present State constitution. Judge Johnstone, while engaged in the practice of his profession was prominent among the early members of the bar of Iowa. Of late years he has been engaged in business as a banker in Keokuk. At the meeting of the second reunion of Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, February 27, 1890, he was unanimously elected President of the association, assuming the duties of that position upon the retirement of Hon. John F. Duncombe. His present residence is at Keokuk, Iowa, where he devotes himself to his business as a banker.

GEORGE WALLACE JONES—Born at Vincennes, Ind., April 12, 1804, and was educated under the guardianship of Henry Clay, at Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky., where he graduated in 1825. He then studied law in the office of John Scott, member of Congress from Missouri. In 1826 he was appointed Clerk of the United States Court at St. Genevieve. In 1827 he removed to Sinsinawa Mound, Wis., but then a part of Michigan Territory. In 1833 he was appointed Judge of the Territorial Court at Mineral Point, and remained on the bench until October, 1835, when he was elected delegate to Congress from Michigan Territory, which then embraced that vast region which now constitutes the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota and all the country west to the Rocky Mountains. He was re-elected to Congress in 1837, and secured the passage of the bill making Iowa a separate Territory. In 1842 he was appointed by Chief Justice Dunn, of Wisconsin, Clerk of the Court; and in 1845, by appointment of President Pierce, we find him in the Surveyor-General's office at Dubuque. On the 7th of December, 1848, he was elected to the Senate of the United States from the new State of Iowa, and by a subsequent election continued in the Senate until March 4, 1859. President Buchanan then appointed him Minister to Bogota, New Grenada, now United States of Colombia. Gen. Jones has been so intimately connected with all that pertains to the early history of Iowa and the west that a brief sketch like this is but a mere glance at a busy and eventful life. He was a man whose influence as a delegate in Congress and as member of the Senate was always potent for the success of any measure he advocated, and as a result he did much in the way of shaping the early history of Iowa as a Territory and as a State.

Gen. Jones still resides at Dubuque, active in body and mind, and reverts with pride to the work of a long and busy life.

GEORGE W. JONES—Was born in Barren county, Ky., November 18, 1820, and removed with his parents to Burlington, Iowa, October 23, 1834. His father, however, had previously resided for some years in Morgan county, Ill., being among the earliest settlers in that part of the State. In Illinois Geo. W. attended such country schools as were then maintained in that new country. He, however, graduated at a log school house located in what is now the city of Burlington. From 1839 to 1843 he was in the grocery business in Mt. Pleasant. He then located on a farm in Mahaska county, and also brought there a stock of goods. That was before the county was organized, or the boundaries defined. Before the county seat was located at Oskaloosa he opened a store there in a log cabin, with his brother John W. Jones, afterward State treasurer, as his partner. They were the pioneer merchants of Mahaska county, and remained at Oskaloosa until 1855. Mr. Jones then removed to Indianola, where he was in the dry goods and banking business. In 1864 he removed to Des Moines, and established the Second National Bank, of which he was cashier. He was also for a time engaged in mercantile business in Des Moines, and afterward in real estate. In 1869 he was elected by the Republicans a member of the Thirteenth General Assembly, and served in the house as a Representative of Polk county. There are but few now living in Iowa whose residence dates back as early as 1834. Mr. Jones' present address is Des Moines where he is still in business as a real estate broker.

HADLEY DOUGLASS JOHNSON—Born in Indiana, September 1, 1812, and came to Iowa in the autumn of 1850. He held his first official position, that of coroner, in Franklin county, Indiana, in 1834. In 1852-3 he was State Senator from a district embracing a large portion of western and northwestern Iowa, his residence then being at Council Bluffs. He was elected Senator on the Democratic ticket. Many years ago he removed from Iowa, and now resides at Salt Lake City, Utah Territory. During the session of the Territorial Legislature of Utah, January, 1890, he was sergeant-at-arms of the House there, being elected to that position by members of the "People's Party." Mr. Johnson is a lawyer by profession, but is now retired from active practice.

JAMES C. JORDAN—Born in Harrison county, Va., March 4, 1813. He passed his early life in farm work and in attending the district schools. When about twenty years of age he removed with his father to the then Territory of Michigan, settling near Niles, where he employed himself in farming and trading. In 1837 he married, and afterward removed to Platt county, Mo. His next removal was in September, 1846, when he came to Iowa and pitched his tent with his family on the spot in Walnut township, Polk county, which has ever since been his home. In the fall of 1853 he was elected to the State Senate by 84 votes, but was counted out on account of some irregularity in the returns from two townships in Jasper county, which was then a part of his senatorial district. He contested the seat held by his competitor, and late in the session of 1854 won and was admitted. During his term he took an active interest in the then pending question of the removal of the capital from Iowa City to Des Moines. In the fall of 1878 he was again elected to the Legislature, this time as a member of the House in

the Eighteenth General Assembly. He was a member of the Polk county board of supervisors three times under the old law, and served as president of that body. Up to the organization of the Republican party he was a Whig, and cast his first vote for Henry Clay for President. When the Whig party ceased to exist he became a Republican, and has always been earnest and unwavering in that faith. In his business of farming and stock-raising he has been successful, and with a competency still resides on his fine farm near Des Moines.

R. D. KELLOGG—Born at Fayetteville, Onondago county, N. Y., March 9, 1828, and came to Iowa in 1854. He was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives in the fall of 1859, from Decatur county, and was re-elected in 1861, by the democratic party. During the war for the Union he was major of the Thirty-fourth Regiment of Iowa Infantry, and participated in several engagements, including the first attack on Vicksburg, and the surrender of Arkansas Post. At the second re-union of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, Major Kellogg was placed on the regular programme for an address, and ably treated his subject, "The Eighth General Assembly," of which he was himself a leading and influential member. His occupation is that of a farmer, his address being Garden Grove, Decatur county, Iowa.

FREDERICK M. KNOLL—Few men have had larger legislative experience in Iowa than the subject of this notice. Mr. Knoll was born March 8, 1833, in the province of Alsace, at that time under the jurisdiction of France. In 1853, when twenty years of age, he came to Iowa and settled in Dubuque county, engaging in farming. He was elected on the democratic ticket, in 1862, as a representative from that county in the Ninth General Assembly, and was senator in the Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. He was again elected representative in the Seventeenth General Assembly, and is now a member of the Twenty-Third General Assembly. In addition to his service in the legislature he was, in 1858, a member of the board of education, has been justice of the peace, and ten years a member of the board of supervisors of Dubuque county. All of these positions he has held by the suffrages of the democratic party, with which he has always been identified. He resides at Sageville, Dubuque county, where he is engaged in farming.

SYLVESTER G. MATSON—Born in Vermont in 1808, and came to Iowa in 1845. The next year he was chosen to represent Jones county in the second constitutional convention, and helped to form the constitution which was sanctioned by the people, August 3, 1846, under which Iowa became a sovereign State. He was the same year elected to the House of Representatives of the First General Assembly, which convened at Iowa City November 30, 1846, serving in the regular session, and also the extra session in January, 1848. Dr. Matson was the chairman of the committee on schools, and has the honor of having contributed to Iowa's glory in devising her splendid educational system. The venerable pioneer physician and legislator resides at Viola, Linn county, and reverts with just pride to his work in the pioneer days of Iowa's history.

JOHN S. MAXWELL—Mr. Maxwell is a native of Morgan county, Ohio, and was born August 22, 1825. He received his education in the common schools of that State, and a college course at Athens. He was admitted to the bar, but engaged in other kinds of business, so that he has not been

engaged regularly in legal practice. He came to Iowa August 20, 1856, settling in Clinton county, where he was engaged in farming. There he held various official positions, including the office of school district secretary, county supervisor, and was elected representative from that county in the Ninth General Assembly. For some time he was engaged in Clinton county in real estate business in connection with some legal business. He also held the office of notary public from 1862 to 1885. In 1882 he sold his Clinton county farm for \$16,000 and bought a thousand acres of land in Calhoun county, improving 640 acres of it. This he sold for \$19,900 in 1889, and then removed to Des Moines, where he engaged in the boot and shoe business. He is still so engaged.

JOHN MEYER—Born in Clinton county, Pa., February 26, 1824, and came to Iowa in 1857. He was educated in the common schools of his native State, after which he attended Mifflinburg Academy, and was a student at Oberlin College, Ohio, receiving in August, 1853, the degree of A. B. He represented Jasper county in the House of the Ninth General Assembly, including the extra session, and was State senator from the same county in the Eleventh, Twelfth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth General Assemblies. Col. Meyer has also an honorable military record. During the war of the rebellion he assisted in raising four companies, and then for himself he raised Company "K," Twenty-eighth Iowa Infantry, and went as its captain until May, 1863. After the battle of Champion Hills he was promoted to the rank of major, and afterward received brevet commissions, both as lieutenant-colonel and colonel. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg and the battles of Chickasaw Bayou, Sabine Cross Roads, Winchester, Cedar Creek, and numerous skirmishes. Col. Meyer in politics is a republican, and was elected by that party to the various civil offices which he has held. He is active and zealous in temperance and educational matters, and is a member of the Congregational church. His business is that of a merchant in Newton, Jasper county.

ISAAC MILLBURN.—Is a native of New Brunswick, Dominion of Canada, and was born August 12, 1818. He came to Iowa in June, 1850, and at an early day engaged in farming in Linn county. He has held various offices in his county by the suffrages of the Republican party, and was elected by that party a representative in the Ninth General Assembly, serving in the regular and extra sessions of 1862. He is engaged in farming, his address being at Cedar Rapids.

JOHN MITCHELL—Born in Claremont, New Hampshire, February 28, 1830, and came to Iowa in 1856, settling at Des Moines. Among the public positions with which he has been honored by the people are, member of the Board of Supervisors of Polk county in 1861, representative in the Ninth General Assembly in 1862, and judge of the Circuit Court for twelve years, ending December 31, 1880. To all these positions he was elected by the Republicans. Since that time he has held the position of register in bankruptcy. In 1861 he was made captain of a company organized for service against the Indians in the northwestern part of Iowa and in the region of Spirit Lake. Capt. Mitchell and his company contributed much to restrain and prevent threatened outbreaks of the Indians in that part of Iowa at that time. He is an attorney in active practice in Des Moines.

THOMAS MITCHELL—Born in Claremont, New Hampshire, March 3, 1816, spending his early life there on a farm, and receiving his education in the district schools. In November, 1839 he came west and spent the winter in St. Charles county, Mo. In March, 1840, he removed to Fairfield, Iowa, where he resided about four years, serving there as one of the commissioners of Jefferson county. He then removed to Polk county, and in 1846 helped to organize it, being elected its first sheriff the same year. From 1861 to 1864 he served as supervisor of Polk county. In 1858 he represented Polk and Jasper counties in the House of Representatives, and in 1874-6 was a member of the State Senate. He has held other important positions, and among them served as president of the Board of Trustees of the State Industrial Schools. He has always been engaged in farming, but has taken an active part in many enterprises to advance the interests of his county and State. His address is Mitchellville, Iowa.

SAMUEL A. MOORE—Was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, December 16, 1821, and first came to Iowa in 1852, and removed to the State permanently in March, 1853. He served his native state of Indiana as representative in her legislature in 1850-1, and was also postmaster of Columbus, Ind., during the administrations of Presidents Taylor and Fillmore, holding these offices by election and appointment as a Whig. As a Republican he was elected State Senator from Davis county, Iowa, serving in the sessions of 1864 and 1866. During the administrations of Presidents Hayes and Arthur he was postmaster of Bloomfield, and served one term, 1888, as mayor of that city. During the civil war he was second lieutenant and captain of Company G, Second Iowa Infantry, and lieutenant-colonel of the Forty-fifth Iowa Infantry. He was in the battles of Donelson and Shiloh, as well as several minor engagements. Col. Moore's residence is at Bloomfield, Davis county.

ANDREW MCPHERRIN—Was born in Butler county, Pa., October 5, 1810. He came to Iowa in 1841 and is one of the pioneer settlers of Van Buren county. He was elected a representative from his county in the First General Assembly, which convened in Iowa City, Nov. 30, 1846, and was also a representative of the Fourth General Assembly from the same county. He has held other responsible positions, including the office of justice of the peace, deputy sheriff, and county superintendent of schools. Mr. McPherrin's present address is Mt. Zion, Van Buren county, where having retired from business, he is enjoying in honorable old age the blessings of a State which he helped to develop.

A. H. MCCRARY—Is a native of Van Buren county, Ind., born in 1814. He came to Iowa in 1837, and settled in Van Buren county, where he has held many positions of honor and trust, commencing away back in pioneer days. For eight years, from 1840 to 1848, he served as justice of the peace. During the latter year he was elected to represent his county in the Legislature, and was re-elected in 1851. In 1854 he was elected to the State Senate, and again in 1862. Before the organization of the Republican party he was a Whig, and afterward a Republican, and held his public positions by the suffrages of these parties. Coming to Iowa in her Territorial days Mr. McCrary has passed through all the realities of pioneer life, and is proud of the commonwealth in whose growth and development he has been an actor for over half a century. Now, as a retired farmer, his address is Keosauqua, Van Buren county.

SAMUEL McNUTT—Was born in Ireland, November 21, 1825, and came to Iowa in 1854. He has held many public offices in Muscatine county, where he resides, from township clerk up to State Senator. His legislative experience extends over a period of ten years, having served six years as a member of the House of Representatives and four years as State Senator. When first elected a member of the House he was engaged as a recruiting officer. He has always been an earnest Republican, and a delegate in many Republican State conventions from Muscatine county. He was formerly engaged in farming, but is now retired, and lives in Muscatine.

REUBEN NOBLE—Born in Adams county, Miss., near Natchez, April 14, 1821. With his parents he removed to Jersey county, Ill., in 1833, where he received his education in the common schools. He read law in Quincy, Ill., with Edward H. Buckley. In 1842 he removed to Grant county, Wis., where he commenced the practice of the law, having been admitted to the bar at Mineral Point. In the fall of 1843 he removed to Iowa, and settled at Garnavillo, then called Jacksonville. The county seat of Clayton county had then just been removed from Prairie La Porte (now Guttenburg), to Jacksonville. Since that time Mr. Noble has been honored with many important positions. He was elected by the Whigs to the General Assembly in 1854, and was chosen Speaker of the House at its organization in December of that year. He was elected district judge for the Tenth judicial district in 1874, and again in 1878, as an Independent. He was also, for one term, prosecuting attorney for his county, and declined a re-nomination. Judge Noble acted a prominent part among the early political leaders of Iowa, but of late years has lived a more retired life, but still devoted to his profession of the law. His present address is McGregor, Iowa.

CHARLES CLINTON NOURSE—Born in Washington County, Maryland, April 1, 1829, and came to Iowa in June, 1851. He received a good education and graduated in the law department of the Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky., in 1850. The next year he commenced the practice of his profession at Keosauqua, Iowa, and while residing there held the office of Prosecuting Attorney of Van Buren county. He was chief clerk of the Iowa House of Representatives in 1854-5, and secretary of the State Senate in 1856-7. In 1858 he removed to Des Moines, where he has ever since resided. In 1860 he was elected Attorney-General of Iowa and re-elected in 1862. In 1865 he was appointed judge of the Fifth judicial district, but after a few months on the bench he resigned to continue his practice of the law. Judge Nourse has been identified with the Republican party from the date of its organization, and held his public offices at the hands of that party. He is still engaged in legal practice at Des Moines.

THEODORE SUTTON PARVIN—One of the pioneers of the Territory of Iowa, and so long identified with its history as Territory and State that he should have a more extended notice than the compiler has data at hand for giving. He was born in New Jersey, Jan. 15, 1817, and came to Iowa in 1838. He has held many public positions, both by appointment and the popular vote. He was appointed the first Territorial Librarian in Iowa, by Governor Lucas, April 10, 1839. The same year Governor Lucas appointed him district attorney for the Second district of Iowa. In 1847 he was appointed by Judge Dyer, of the United States District Court, as clerk of his court. In 1857 he became register of the State land office, being elected on

the Democratic ticket. While residing in Muscatine county, in 1841, and later, he also served as justice of the peace and judge of the probate court. In 1840 he served as secretary of the Territorial Council. He has for many years served as the Grand Secretary of the Masons of Iowa, and is the librarian of the Iowa Masonic library at Cedar Rapids, where he now resides in charge of the finest and most extensive Masonic library in this country. Prof. Parvin has been zealous in his efforts to save from loss the rapidly vanishing material for the future historian of Iowa. His contributions to various publications have inspired an interest in this direction, which is resulting in a more general desire that Iowa's early days shall not pass into oblivion with the achievements of the hardy and heroic pioneers unrecorded. His active efforts in this line at the Reunions of the Pioneer Law-Makers attest his zeal and earnestness in this matter.

LEROY G. PALMER—Was born in Kentucky, November 3, 1821, and came to Iowa November 1, 1849. Mr. Palmer was elected State Senator from Henry county to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Alvin Saunders appointed as Governor of Nebraska, and served from April, 1861, until the end of the term. He was an active member of the Senate in the extra session held in that year. He was county judge of Henry county one term—1862-4. He had been a democrat, but was elected to both of these offices as a republican. Mr. Palmer is a veteran of the Mexican war, having served one year under Col. E. D. Baker in Company "B," Fourth Regiment Illinois Volunteers. He is an attorney by profession, and resides at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

J. H. POWERS—Is a native of Vermont, born May 22, 1830, and came to Iowa in 1855. He has held a number of minor offices, and in 1859 was elected State Senator in the district composed of the counties of Howard, Chickasaw, Mitchell, Floyd, Worth, Cerro Gordo, Wright and Hancock. Early in the civil war he enlisted as a private in Company "B," Seventh Iowa Infantry, and subsequently became captain of Company "I," Ninth Iowa Infantry. Among the battles in which he was engaged were Chickasaw Bayou and Arkansas Post. He also served as judge advocate, and as the commissioner of drafts for the northeast district of Iowa. Mr. Powers is an attorney by profession, and resides at New Hampton, Iowa.

BENJAMIN B. RICHARDS—Mr. Richards is a native of the State of New York, and was born in 1823. He came to Iowa in 1853, making his home in the city of Dubuque. His legislative service has been in both branches of the Iowa General Assembly. In 1863 he was elected a Representative from Dubuque county, and Senator in 1865. He was re-elected Senator in 1871. He has always acted with the democratic party, and elected by that party each time as Representative and Senator. Mr. Richard's residence is at Dubuque, where he has been engaged in the banking business, but has also devoted attention to farming.

LEWIS W. ROSS—Born in Butler county, Ohio, October 15, 1827, and came to Iowa in 1856. He served as a member of the State Senate in 1864-8, or in the Tenth and Eleventh General Assemblies, being elected as a republican. Since that time he has held the position of Chancellor in the Iowa State University for a number of years, but is now actively engaged in the practice of his profession as a lawyer at Council Bluffs, where he has resided for many years.

JAMES H. ROTHROCK—Is a native of Pennsylvania, but before coming to Iowa he resided in Highland county, Ohio, where he at one time held the office of prosecuting attorney. In 1860 he came to Iowa, and in the fall of 1861 was elected from Cedar county a Representative in the Ninth General Assembly, serving with distinction at the regular and extra sessions of 1862. Later he was elected Judge in the Eighth Judicial District of Iowa. After this he was nominated by the republican party, and elected one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State, which position he now holds. Judge Rothrock has also a military record. He was lieutenant-colonel of the Thirty-fifth Iowa Infantry Regiment, and took part in several engagements, including the battles at Jackson and Vicksburg, Miss. His present residence is at Cedar Rapids, Linn county.

NEAL W. ROWELL—Was born in Ohio, June 19, 1836, and came to Iowa in 1847. He has held the offices of county judge and county superintendent of schools in Union county. He was twice elected as Representative from the district composed of the counties of Union and Adams, serving with distinction in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. He has always been, politically, an unwavering Republican, and held official position by the suffrages of that party. He has also been prominent as a delegate in several of his party's State conventions. He is by profession a lawyer, and as a member of the Twelfth General Assembly he took a leading part in the enactment of the law establishing the circuit court. His residence is at Afton, Union county.

JOHN RUSSELL—Was born in the county of Fife, Scotland, October 8, 1821, the second son in a family of four boys. At fifteen he was apprenticed to learn the trade of stone-cutting, and served his full term of four years. At nineteen he went to Glasgow; where he worked at his trade several months. While there he became interested in some political questions then being agitated, and became somewhat informed in reference to American affairs by reading books which came in his way. The result was, that he determined to come to America, and arrived in New York May 29, 1842. In Pittsburgh he worked at his trade for some time. After this he invested a small amount which he had saved up, in a small stock of goods, and became a merchant in Columbiana county, Ohio. Having accumulated about two thousand dollars he resolved to come further west, and finally, in 1852, purchased a quarter section of land in Jones county, Iowa. In December of the same year he brought his family and spent the winter in Keokuk. In the spring of 1853 he went to Jones county and entered upon his new life as a Hawkeye farmer. In 1860 he was chairman of the board of supervisors of his county, and in 1862, 1864, 1866, 1868 and 1870 a member of the House of Representatives from Jones county—in 1868 being the Speaker of the House. From 1871 to 1875 he was Auditor of State, and a member of the State Senate in 1880 and 1882. He was elected to all these positions by the Republican party. His service in the Senate was for the district embracing Jones and Cedar counties. In 1864 he enlisted as a private in the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, but his company was detailed for service at Davenport, where he remained until mustered out, May 18, 1865. His present address is Onslow, Jones county, where he is engaged in farming.

WILLIAM SANDERSON—Was born in the city of New York, February 12, 1828, and came to Iowa in 1856. In 1863, he was elected as one of the

Representatives in the Tenth General Assembly, his colleagues being Hugh M. Thompson and Hugh M. G. Skiles. Mr. Sanderson now resides in Des Moines, and is by profession a teacher. He was elected to the General Assembly by the Republicans.

GEORGE SCHRAMM—A native of Germany, born February 12, 1816, and came to Iowa in 1845, settling in Van Buren county. From 1852 to 1856 he represented that county in the State Senate, being elected by the Whig party. In 1862 he was elected from the same county by the Republicans to the House of Representatives. Later he changed his residence, and for many years he has been a citizen of Des Moines, where he has been, and is still engaged in business as a grocer.

JOHN SCOTT—Is a native of Jefferson county, Ohio, born April 14, 1824. He first came to Iowa in 1843, but remained only temporarily. In 1856, he became a permanent citizen of the State, and in 1860 was a member of the Senate of the Eighth General Assembly, being elected from a district embracing the counties of Story, Hardin, Boone and Hamilton. When the war of the rebellion came on he tendered his services to assist in preserving the Union, and in 1861-2, was lieutenant colonel of the Third Iowa Infantry, and was engaged in the battles of Blue Mills and Shiloh. Later in the war, in 1862-4, he was made colonel of the Thirty-second Iowa Infantry, and with his regiment was engaged at Pleasant Hill, La. After the war he returned to his farm at Nevada, Story county, but was elected lieutenant-governor of Iowa in 1868, and in 1870 was made revenue assessor for the Sixth Iowa district. In 1886 we find him again a member of the State Senate in the Twenty-first General Assembly, from the counties of Boone and Story. Col. Scott has always taken an active interest in matters pertaining to agriculture and stock raising, and is now largely engaged in the business of improving live stock. He has been an active member of the State Agricultural Society, in which he has held various official positions. Col. Scott, politically, has always been an active Republican.

RODERICK A. SMITH—Was born in the State of New York, October 13, 1831, and came to Iowa in 1856. In 1857 he was a member of Company A of Major Williams' command in the expedition to Spirit Lake against the Indians, after the massacre at that place, and was also in 1862, a volunteer among the settlers who followed up the Indians after the Minnesota massacre. Soon after the Spirit Lake massacre he settled in Dickinson county, and was elected to the House of Representatives of the Twelfth General Assembly, from the district composed of the counties of Emmet, Dickinson, Clay and Palo Alto. He has been for two terms clerk of the district court in his county, county surveyor six terms at different intervals, member of the board of supervisors, 1871 to 1874, superintendent of schools, 1880 to 1886, and has held other positions of honor and trust. He resides at Okoboji, Dickinson county, where he is engaged in farming and surveying.

L. W. STUART—Is a native of the State of New York, born March 21, 1830, and came to Iowa in 1852. In 1854-5 he held the office of county surveyor in Jones county. After this he served from Jackson county in both houses of the General Assembly. He was a member of the House in the Twelfth General Assembly, and in 1872 was in the Senate, serving at the regular session of that year, the adjourned session of 1873, and at the regular session of 1874. In 1876 he was again a member of the House of Repre-

sentatives. Politically, Mr. Stuart is a Democrat, and has held his official positions through suffrage of that party. Residence, Monmouth, Jackson county, Iowa, where he is engaged in farming and manufacturing.

I. P. TETER—Was born in Virginia in 1829, and came to Iowa in 1853. He was elected State senator from Keokuk county, and served in the regular and extra sessions of the General Assembly in 1862. During the civil war he was chaplain of the 7th Iowa Infantry, and, also was chaplain of the United States hospital at Keokuk. As a minister of the gospel in the Methodist Episcopal church he is well known throughout the State, and may now be classed as almost one of the pioneers of the Methodism in Iowa. He is an earnest republican, politically, and was elected by that party to the State Senate. His residence is now at Oskaloosa.

LEWIS TODHUNTER—A native of Fayette county, Ohio, where he was born, April 6, 1817. He came to Iowa in March, 1850. He has both a civil and military record, having been twice county attorney of Warren county, and also county treasurer. He was, also, twice elected mayor of Indianola. In 1856 he was elected a member of the convention which framed the present constitution of Iowa, representing the district composed of the counties of Warren, Madison, Adair and Cass. Up to the organization of the republican party he was a whig, but identified himself with the republican party as soon as it was organized, and held his official positions by the suffrages of these parties. In the war for the Union he held the offices of lieutenant and quartermaster in the 48th Iowa Infantry, and was with General Grant's forces at Appomattox court house. Mr. Todhunter is an attorney at law by profession, and is still engaged in the practice. He has always been a zealous advocate of temperance and of prohibition of the liquor traffic. He resides at Indianola, where he is still engaged in the legal profession.

BEN VAN STEENBURG—Born in Herkimer county, New York, August 1, 1839, and came to Iowa in 1858, locating in Jackson county. Among the public offices which he has held are, County recorder of Jackson county, first clerk in the Iowa House of Representatives of the 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th General Assemblies, and deputy marshal of United States Census, 1870, and 1880. To all these positions he was elected by the Republican party. He served as a private in company A, 24th Iowa volunteer infantry, during the rebellion, and participated in several battles, among which were Port Gibson, Raymond and Champion Hills, Mississippi. In the last named battle he lost his right arm, and also suffered the loss of the use of his left fore-arm. Mr. Van Steenburg is known as one of the most efficient clerks who has ever presided at a desk in either branch of the Iowa legislature. He has been one of the Secretaries of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association since its organization.

CHARLES WEARE—Born in Orleans county, Vermont, 1828, and came to Iowa in 1848. He has held several important civil offices, the first of which was that of sergeant-at-arms of the Senate in the Fifth General Assembly. He represented Linn county in the House of Representatives of the Fifth General Assembly, and for eight years held the office of postmaster of Cedar Rapids.

THOMAS S. WILSON—Was born at Steubenville, Ohio, October 13, 1813, and graduated at Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, in 1832. He was admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Ohio in 1834. Soon after this he came

west to Prairie du Chien, where his brother, Capt. George Wilson, was then serving in the 1st United States Infantry, under command of Colonel Zachary Taylor. Mr. Wilson brought his young wife with him from Ohio, and removed from Prairie du Chien to Dubuque in October, 1836. The next year he was elected president of the board of trustees of the town of Dubuque, this being his first official position. In June, 1838, he was nominated for delegate to Congress. Taking a steamer to canvass the southern portion of the Territory, the captain of the boat produced a late St. Louis paper, containing an announcement of Mr. Wilson's appointment by President Van Buren, as one of the judges of the supreme court of Iowa. He had made no application for the office, and the appointment was a surprise to him. Presidents Tyler and Polk renewed the appointment, and he continued a judge of the supreme court for a year after Iowa was admitted as a state in 1846. When the First General Assembly went into joint convention for the election of United States senator, he came within one vote of being elected. The first court ever held in Iowa Territory was held by Judge Wilson at Prairie La Porte, now Guttenburg, on the second Monday in September, 1838. In 1847 he resigned his office as judge of the supreme court, and devoted himself to the practice of his profession. In 1852 he was elected district judge, and by successive elections held that office until 1863. He has also held the offices of prosecuting and United States attorney, and elected a member of the General Assembly in 1866 and 1868. He was a member of the Cincinnati national convention, which nominated James Buchanan for president. For over fifty years judge Wilson has been prominent in Iowa's history, and is still engaged in the practice of his profession at Dubuque, remarkably active and well preserved for a man of his age and long and laborious public service. While he has always been in politics an ardent democrat, his talents and ability have been recognized and acknowledged by all parties.

JAMES WILSON—Is a native of Scotland, born August 16, 1835. He came to Iowa in 1855, and was among the early settlers in Tama county, where he engaged in farming. He was elected by the republicans to the House of Representatives of the 12th, 13th and 14th General Assemblies of Iowa, and was chosen speaker in the Fourteenth General Assembly. The same party elected him from the 5th Iowa district to the 43d, 44th and 45th Congresses. In 1881 Gov. Sherman appointed him a member of the board of railroad commissioners. In all these positions he served the State with ability and faithfulness. While always taking an active part in political matters, he is at the same time heartily devoted to agricultural pursuits, and is known throughout the State as an able writer on subjects connected with the greatest and most important of Iowa's industries, farming and stock raising. Present address, Traer, Tama county.

WILLIAM P. WOLF—Is a native of Ohio, born December 1, 1833, and came to Iowa in 1856. He has been elected on the Republican ticket to various important offices, the first of which was his election as county superintendent of Cedar county, in 1861. In 1864 he was elected to the House of the Tenth General Assembly, and to the State Senate in 1868-70. In 1871 he was elected to represent the Second district for the short term in Congress. He was again a member of the Iowa House of Representatives, in 1882 and 1884, and at the latter session was elected Speaker of the House. In 1863 he was enrolled in the military service, as Captain of Company I, 46 Iowa volunteer infantry. Is by profession a lawyer, and his address is Tipton, Iowa.

ED. WRIGHT—Was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, June 27, 1827. He landed at Muscatine, Iowa, July 5, 1852. He identified himself with the Republican party. He represented Cedar county in the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Eleventh General Assemblies, and was Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Eleventh. He served also three consecutive terms as Secretary of State, being first elected in 1866. After the expiration of his terms as Secretary of State, he became the Secretary of the Board of Capitol Commissioners, and Assistant Superintendent of construction. When the commission was dissolved he was appointed custodian of public buildings and property, and was subsequently placed in charge of the improvement of the grounds of the new Capitol. Gen. Wright has a military, as well as a civil record. Soon after the breaking out of the civil war he entered the service as major of the 24th Regiment of Iowa volunteer infantry, was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, Colonel, and then Brevet Brigadier General. He was in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hills, Siege of Vicksburg, Sabine Cross Roads, Winchester, and Cedar Creek, Va., and several other engagements.

GEORGE G. WRIGHT—A native of Monroe county, Indiana, born March 24, 1820, and came to Iowa in September, 1840. He was educated at the State University of Indiana, and graduated in the class of 1839. After this he read law at Rockville, in the office of his brother, Joseph A. Wright, afterward Governor of Indiana. In 1840 he was admitted to practice in the courts of that State, but in November of the same year opened an office in the then promising young town of Keosauqua, Territory of Iowa. Soon afterward the Whigs elected him prosecuting attorney for Van Buren county, which office he held one year. In 1848 and 1850 we find him in the State Senate from the same county. In 1855 he was honored with a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court of the State, and held that office for fifteen years, or until 1870, when he was elected to the United States Senate, declining re-election at the close of his Senatorial term of six years. He removed from Keosauqua to Des Moines about ten years after being elected Judge of the Supreme Court, and at the Capital city devoted much of his time and attention to the organization and building up of the Iowa Law School. A number of gentlemen who have become prominent members of the Iowa bar were students in his office. Judge Wright has held many honorable positions not of a political character. For five years he was the president of the Iowa State Agricultural Society, and has also been honored with the presidency of the American Bar Association. In politics he was a Whig up to the organization of the Republican party, since which time he has always been an unwavering Republican. Of late years he has been engaged in banking in Des Moines.

CLARENCE S. WILSON—Is a native of Louisiana, born February 7, 1839, and came to Iowa in 1860. He was a clerk in the Iowa House of Representatives in 1864-6, and a member of the House for Polk county in 1876-8. He has also a military record, having been a sergeant in the first Iowa Cavalry regiment, and participated in most of the actions in which that regiment was engaged. He has been one of the secretaries of the Pioneer Law-makers' Association since its organization. He is a journalist by profession, and has been for many years connected with leading papers of the State, being at present associate editor of the Daily Iowa Capital at Des Moines.

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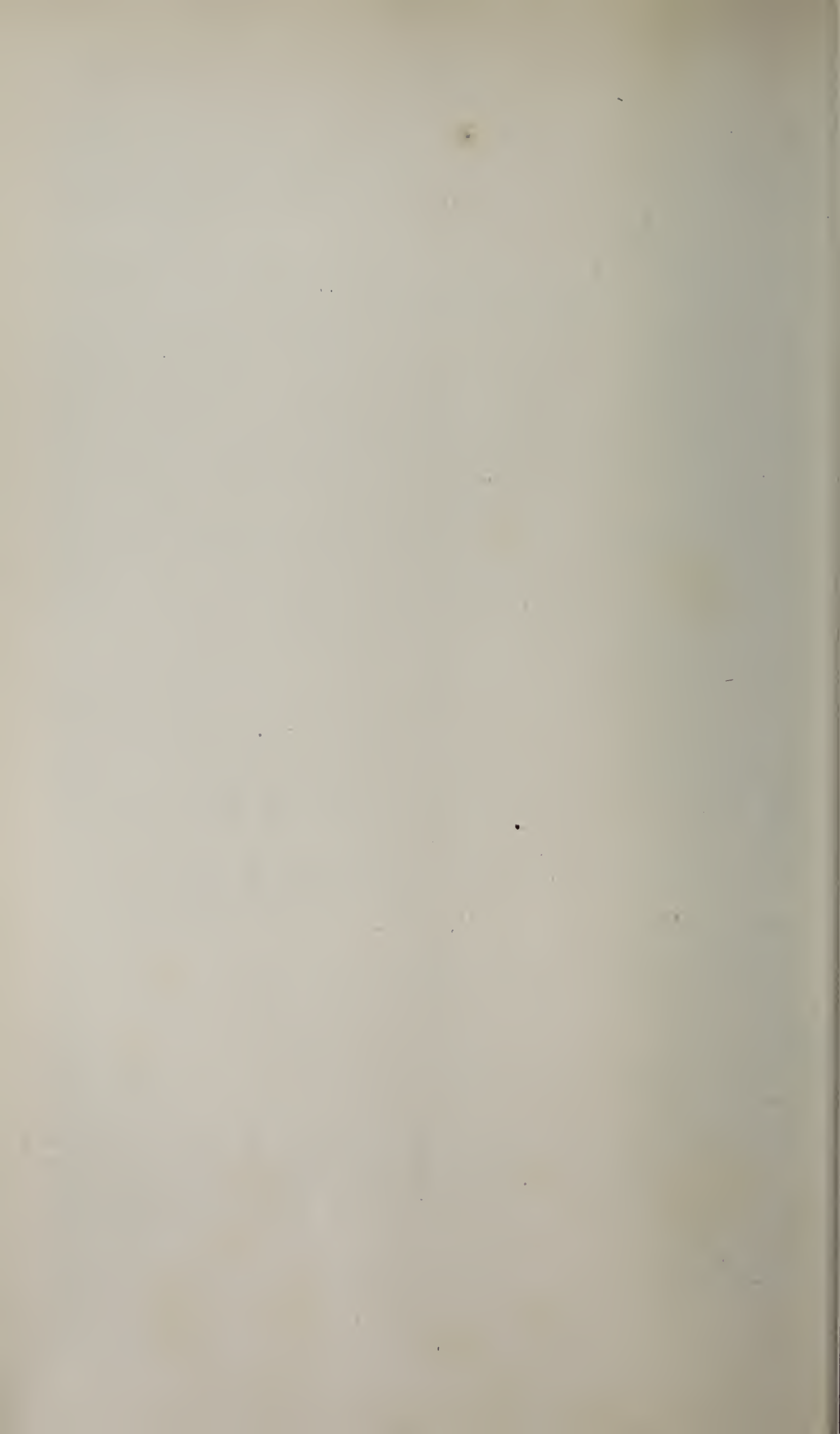
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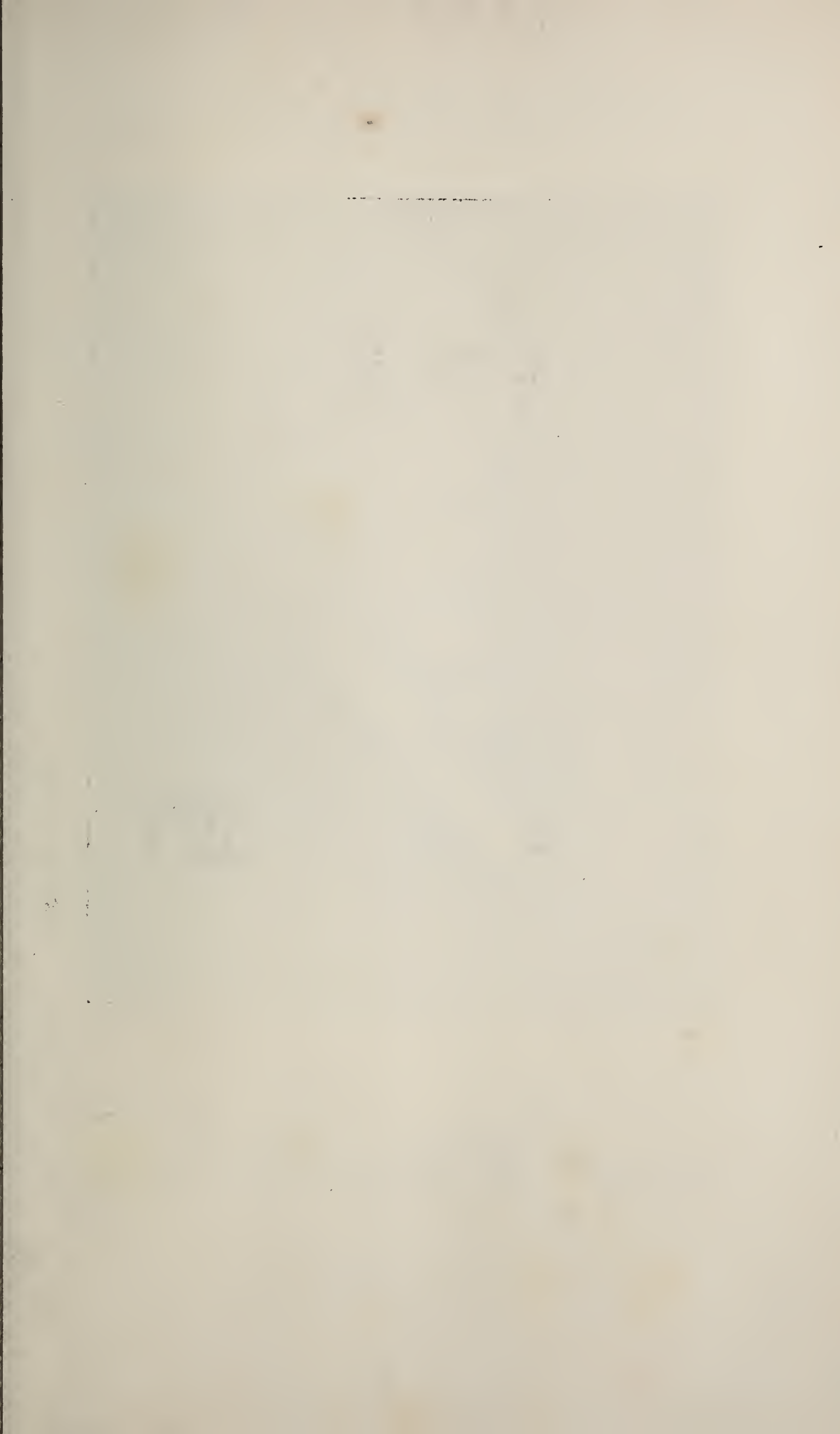
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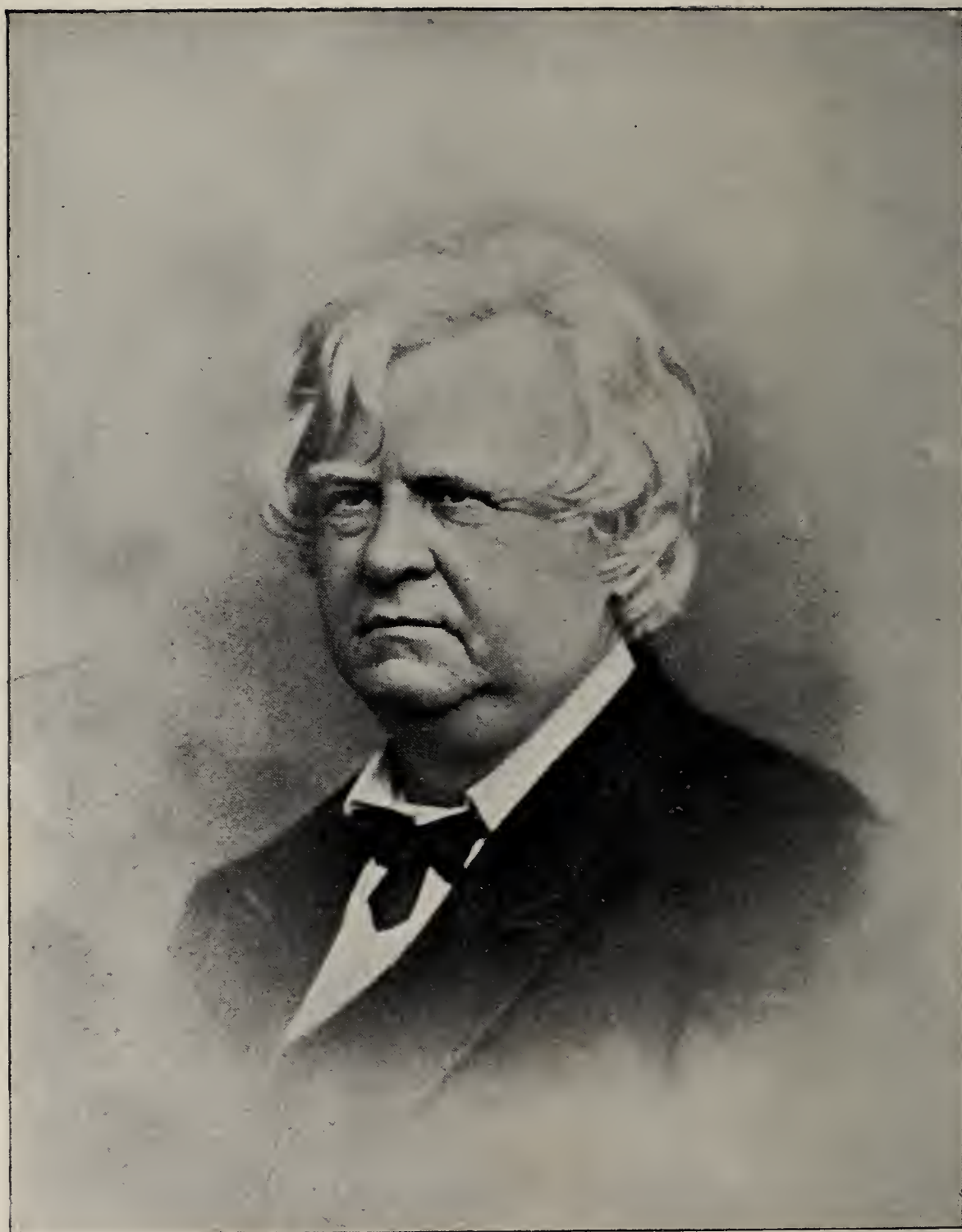
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— Edward John Tracy

PIONEER LAW-MAKERS

ASSOCIATION OF IOWA.

REUNION OF 1892.

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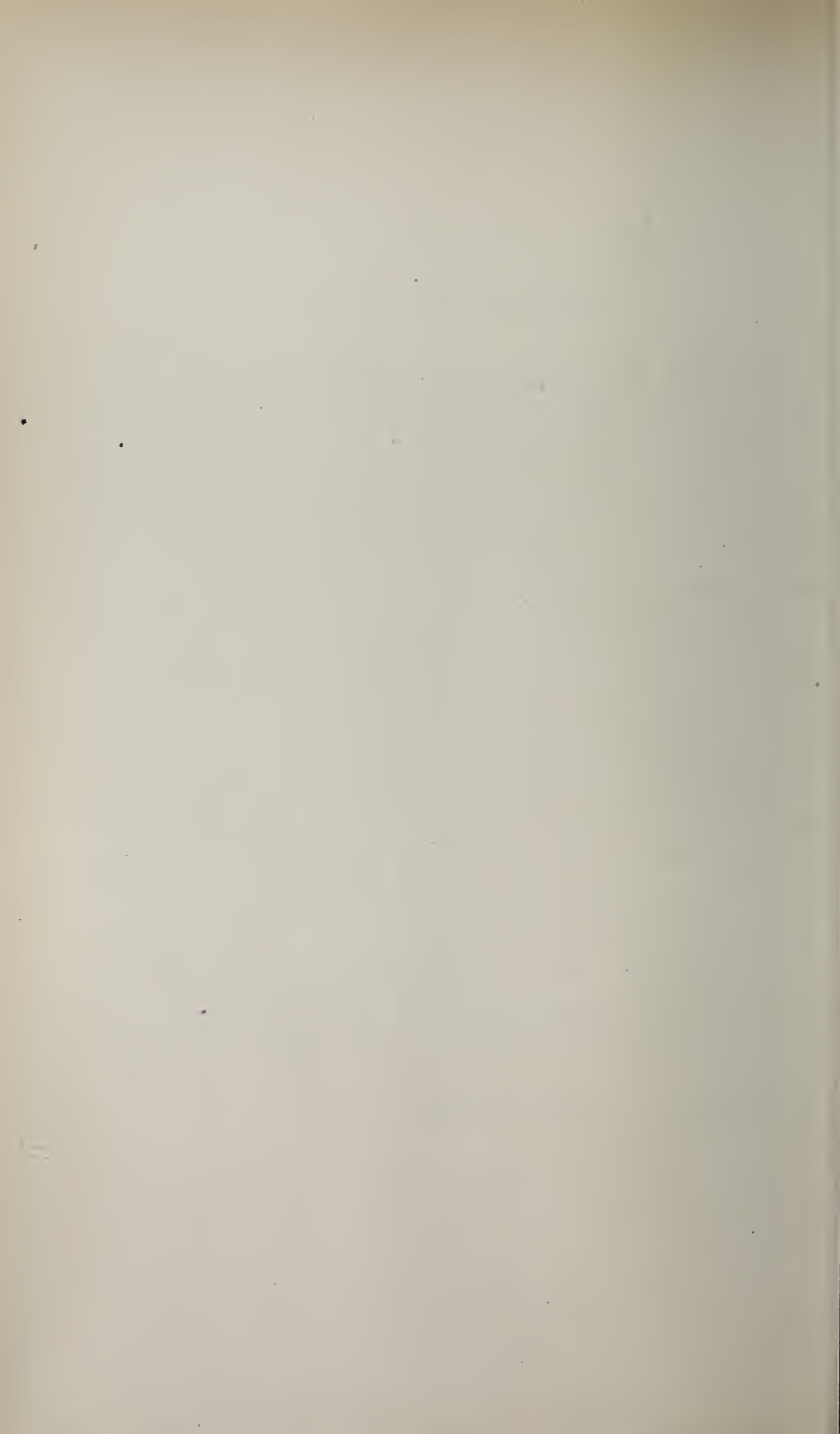


PREFATORY NOTE.

During the interval between the Second and Third Re-Unions of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association of Iowa, both the President, Hon. Edward Johnstone, of Keokuk, and our most efficient Secretary, Hon. Alexander R. Fulton, were removed by death. The action of the Association in choosing a President *pro tempore*, will be found recorded in the proceedings. Of the three assistant Secretaries, it was determined by the Executive Committee that I should act in the place of Judge Fulton. As provision had been made that a stenographer should make a *verbatim* report of the proceedings, this action left to me little besides the collection and supervision of the biographical notes and the reading of the proofs. I am, however, very glad that we are able to present excellent portraits of both Judge Johnstone and Judge Fulton. Appropriate notices of these distinguished pioneers will be found elsewhere. Particular attention is called to the very excellent addresses of Hon. Messrs. Nourse, Wright, Carpenter, Parvin, Pusey, Eaton, Yeomans, and others, which will be found to contain much valuable historical matter. The sketch of Hon. W. W. Chapman our first delegate in Congress, who lately died in Portland, Oregon, which was carefully prepared by Mr. Parvin, is a most valuable contribution to Iowa biography. Several very interesting biographical sketches have also been contributed by Hon. B. F. Gue. The delay in the publication of these proceedings arose from causes wholly beyond my control.

CHARLES ALDRICH.

Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 21, 1892.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD REUNION.

The Third Annual Meeting of the Pioneer Law-Makers was called to order February 10, 1892, in the assembly rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, by the Secretary, Charles Aldrich.

Judge P. M. Casady submitted the following motion: That Judge G. G. Wright be called to act as temporary chairman of the Association, the chair having been made vacant by the death of our President, Judge Johnson. This motion was seconded and adopted, and Hon. Geo. G. Wright, of Des Moines, came forward and acted as temporary chairman.

The chair announced the first business in order to be the address of welcome by Judge Nourse.

The address of welcome was here delivered by Judge Nourse, as follows:

GENTLEMEN—*Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa:*

The pleasant duty has been assigned to me, of bidding you welcome—welcome to our Capital City, which on this occasion may very properly represent the hearthstone of our Iowa home, of which you have been the architects and builders. Certainly no men could be more welcome than yourselves.

The future historian of the American nation will find in its history nothing more wonderful or more worthy of his pen than the planting and development of the new States that during the century have been founded and grown up in our national territories.

It seems almost a miracle, that such a commonwealth as Iowa, in a little more than half a century could have been developed in a territory theretofore occupied only by savages, now teeming with vigorous political, social and commercial life, with her two millions of people, her schools, colleges and churches; and her public charities, her manufactories, her enormous agricultural productions and varied industries, her people enjoying all the blessings of the best and highest civilization known to the world.

As you look at your surroundings to-day — this city, with its sixty thousand inhabitants, its manufactories, its warerooms, stores and beautiful homes, its spacious hotels, the Capitol building crowning yonder hill, this home of the Young Mens' Christian Association, where we are assembled—it is hard to realize that until October, 1845, less than fifty years ago, this portion of Iowa was in the exclusive possession of the Sac and Fox Indians, and that it was unlawful for a white man to make a settlement here.

And it has been less than sixty years (Sept. 15, 1832) since General Scott stood upon the west bank of the Mississippi, where Davenport now is, and concluded the treaty with the Indians by which the occupation, by the white men of any part of Iowa, became lawful.

Why should not the people of Iowa cultivate an honest, loyal State pride, and with it an ardent love for the home of their adoption or their nativity?

Where in any place on earth has a man a better chance than here in the State of Iowa? Where is honest effort or labor more respected or better rewarded? Where can a man's children be better educated or educated with less expense? In no place, State or nation, can conditions and environments be found more desirable than in our own Iowa.

To have been the founders and builders of such a State is an honor of which you, the Pioneer Law-Makers, may feel justly proud. You were the founders of our schools and colleges. You established our institutions for the care of the unfortunate classes. You laid the corner stone of yonder magnificent capitol building.

All these stand to-day the monuments of your wisdom, your foresight, your sense of moral obligation and duty as guardians of the public welfare and trustees of the people's bounty. And in the expenditure of these millions of the people's money you have not only acted wisely and with due regard to economy, but you have acted with the strictest honesty and integrity. The architecture and strength and durability of our public buildings are not the only source of pride and gratification felt by the people of the State as they look upon the work of your hands; they feel more pride in the fact that no stain or suspicion of fraud or speculation is associated with their construction.

In our organic and statutory enactments you have secured the rights of persons and property. You have secured to every head of a family a homestead from the rapacity of creditors; you have secured the equality of all men before the law, and in nothing have you disregarded the rights of man or the claims of humanity; you have maintained the public credit of the State and no stain of repudiation has ever dishonored her fair name.

It is true that when you formed our political institutions, you had the advantage of the example and experience of the older states of the republic, and the model of our national constitution as well. So had Moses been shown the fashion of the Tabernacle when in the mountain, but it was only by the hand of the Son-of-Uri inspired, says the record, by the spirit of God, in wisdom and understanding and knowledge that the work and plan of the Divine Architect ever materialized in its beauty and perfection.

The Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa did not hesitate to wrestle with any question involving the material interests and general welfare of the people of the State. Like those of the present day they were earnest partisans and were divided in sentiment upon grave questions of national politics, but in

matters involving only the peace and good order of society in the State, the health, morals and domestic happiness of the people, the security and safety of the home and of the children, party lines were not drawn. They were not of that class of statesmen who are "all their life time in bondage through fear of political death." No legislation could be more radical on the temperance question than the provisions of the Code of 1851, and the Maine law, so-called, of 1855, yet no mention is made of the question in the State platforms of either of the political parties of that early period. The Code of 1851 declared that thereafter the people of the State would take no share in the profits of retailing intoxicating liquors; and places where intoxicating liquors were sold to be drunk on or about the premises were declared public nuisances. The law of 1855 was quite as thorough and strict in its provisions as is the prohibitory law now in force, and yet the vote upon its passage was, in the Senate (equally divided as to parties) twenty-three yeas and only eight nays, and in the House, with only six majority for the dominant party, the vote was yeas forty-four, nays eleven. The only local option law passed by the early law-makers of Iowa related to the right of hogs to run at large in the State. A very learned opinion of our Supreme Court, delivered by his honor Judge Wright, decided that as to hogs they were not all necessarily "equal before the law," or rather that the law need not necessarily affect all the hogs alike. The opinion, however, makes this nice distinction: It declares that if the Legislature had undertaken by direct legislation to permit the hogs in one county to run at large and had by the same act denied to the hogs of another county the same privilege, the law would have been unconstitutional; but as the law provided that the people of any county, and all the counties of the State had the same privilege of deciding by their votes for or against the liberty of the hogs, the law was therefore constitutional as a police regulation.

But I must forbear to pursue this subject: I dare not discuss political questions to-day—this is sacred ground.

The fact that I desire to emphasize today in this brief address of welcome is, that this commonwealth of Iowa is not an accident. It is not like Topsy, of Uncle Tom's Cabin. It hasn't just growed. This home of free men and free women, of free schools, of free thought, and free speech and free press; this busy hive of honest industry, of untiring energy and enterprise, protected and encouraged by constitutional guarantees and equal laws, is the result of patient thought and honest patriotic effort.

You, venerable men, planted the tree, you watched over its early growth, you pruned its branches and gave it strength, beauty and vitality, and these thousands are here in Iowa to-day to bless you and enjoy the fruit of your labor.

Of course you are welcome—welcome here and welcome everywhere, where wisdom, patriotism and honesty are recognized and honored. You will no doubt be compensated for your journey to this gathering by meeting many of your old-time friends and co-laborers. It has been, no doubt, quite an undertaking for some of you to come so far from your homes. Fortunately the hardships of travel are not what they were in the good old days. I see some here who reached Iowa City in the winters of 1854-5-6, in open wagons, with the thermometer 20° below zero. They won't soon forge Washington Prairie, English River or Mother Younker's pork pies. No

doubt many of you have floundered in the sloughs of Skunk River bottom in order to reach your homes after the adjournment of the General Assembly. Even in this goodly city in the spring of 1858 you reached the old Capitol building from your hotels by traveling a good part of the way over the floods of the Des Moines in boats. Now things are more comfortable. You came to Des Moines in a Pullman Palace car, traveling twenty-five or thirty miles an hour at half-fare, and when you go over the river this afternoon to visit the Legislature, we will send you over by lightning.

In recalling the associations and incidents of other days, you will no doubt realize a genuine pleasure. There are no better friends on earth than old friends. You have arrived at that time of life when you do not so much look to the future as to the past. You are young again in its memories, and I am happy to congratulate you on the fact that in your official lives as law-makers of Iowa you have so much to remember and recall with pleasure, and nothing that you desire to forget.

(Applause.)

Song by the choir.

Address by the President, Hon. Geo. G. Wright:

Gentlemen of the Association :

Should I say that this call is to me a surprise, you would say that it is not so, for the same thing has been said so often under like circumstances that it has ceased to have even the semblance of truth. Then, too, this somewhat voluminous manuscript would dispel any possible delusion on that subject. The truth is, some friends suggested that I ought to be selected for this place, and hence had as well prepare for the same, and assuming that the good sense of the Association would probably endorse their unofficial nomination, I got ready! So I am not taken by surprise!

And now I give you thanks for the compliment, and use the words in no perfunctory sense, but most sincerely and cordially.

In the next place, and what I have said above naturally leads to it, I beg to suggest the propriety of changing the rule or practice so as to elect our officers for the ensuing re-union at the close rather than at the beginning of our meetings. Or, if not this, that you leave it for the Executive Committee to do so during vacation. This enables your presiding officer to prepare with more care, as he should, whatever he has to suggest, or to elaborate at greater length the subject or subjects of which he may treat. And, if such opening addresses are of any value, there ought in justice, to be time for this preparation rather than, as may occur, a call after a few minutes or hours notice. I beg also to make one other suggestion, and that is, that we change the name of the association so as to read "Pioneer Association of Iowa State Officials" or "Iowa Pioneer Association of State Officials." At present the title includes only *legislators* or *law-makers*, whereas as we know, State officials—executive and judicial, as well as legislative—are members. As a consequence many pioneer State officials are misled if they did not belong to the legislative branch, and until specifically advised have no thought of

attending. As I have in many instances had inquiries on this very subject and growing out of the name of the association, I suggest the propriety of this change so as to correspond with what is in fact intended or meant. But without entering further into the reasons for these changes, I submit the same for your consideration.

This is our third re-union. That those preceding have resulted in good, not only to those in attendance, but to all the people of the State, I will not doubt. So cordial have been our greetings and our receptions by officials and people, so helpful and beneficial the renewal of old time friendships, so much has been done in uniting the old with the new and projecting the influences of the early days into the future, that no one, it seems to me, but rejoices that we can come together and speak of the past of our good State, and labor for its still further progress and advancement. To illustrate: Legislative acts, judicial utterances, executive orders and other like matters aside, and omitting the living for obvious reasons, referring to the departed alone, how pleasant and how profitable and with what pride may we refer, among others, to Robert Lucas, our first governor, of iron will, spotless integrity, a Christian statesman and citizen—John Chambers, a soldier of the early days of the century, a fit representative of his Kentucky home, an honored member of legislative halls or the chair executive—James Clarke, self-educated, modest and reserved in manner, the printer statesman, a leader among his brethren of the craft, faithful and zealous in every public work; Augustus C. Dodge (whose son is now of our State Senate and well honors the name), than whom few men accomplished more for our Territory and State, courtly in manner as he was generous and honest, a gentleman in private and official life alike; the soldier-like, erect, honest-hearted and cool-headed Charles Mason; the genial and never-to-be-forgotten Joseph Williams; few men ever helped the State more, whether on the bench or in other positions; the chivalrous and ever polite Warner Lewis, Isaac N. Lewis, Loring Wheeler, Thomas Cox, J. W. Parker, John G. Shields (whose son also most worthily fills his place in our State Senate); the apparently morose but big-hearted and very able Joseph C. Knapp—John P. Cook, the favorite of every circle and the light of every assembly, not by any means forgetting the seemingly necessary part of every Assembly in the early days, “Old Timber” (James W. Woods, the presiding officer of the “Third House”),—and Captain Irish and John B. Russell, the inimitable story tellers,—and the sedate and unique Turner, who from charity if from no other motive, was always given some kind of a clerkship, whichever party was in power, and the neatest penman of the old Capitol—those most eloquent and able advocates, Ben. M. Samuels, David Rorer, Fred Mills (who fell in Mexico), Thomas Gray, C. W. Slagle, M. D. Browning, W. E. Leffingwell, W. F. Sapp, I. M. Preston, Curtis Bates, Stephen Whicher, Lewis R. Reeves, Thos. Rogers, Norton Munger. Henry W. Starr, who was flashingly brilliant, and left perhaps more good sayings and was the author of more happy hits than any of his brethren; Platt Smith, not of many words but of ideas the most direct and ponderous; James Grant, ardent, and a most gallant fighter, whether at the trial table, in a court of last resort, or elsewhere; Gil Folsom, eccentric as he was able, and as cultured in mind as he was apparently rough in exterior; L. D. Stockton and James P. Carleton, who ever exemplified on the bench and in private life that “a traveler in a straight road never gets lost;” the

Halls (J. C. and Augustus)—the one of marvelous natural force and power, the other not so strong in these but more politic and shrewd; Woodward, of culture and the best education of the eastern schools—his colleague, Isbell, without his polish but more direct and of fewer words; George Greene, not especially learned in the law or letters, and yet by his patient industry among the most valuable in our court of last resort, as he was afterwards distinguished for his force, energy and enterprise in the widest fields of business; Baldwin (Caleb), a natural leader, as true in his friendships as he was faithful in the many places which he filled with marked ability; the three Lowes—Enos, the presiding officer of one constitutional convention and the Senate of the Third State Assembly—Joseph, from Indiana, old-fashioned in ideas and manners, and yet respected by all—Ralph P., the Governor, District and Supreme Judge—his honesty led him to have confidence in all, seeking for the right, utterly regardless of technicalities and a very lion in physical courage; Rice, McJunkin, Bissell, Allen, Cutts—Attorney-Generals, worthy the State and the bar; Curtis, Belknapp, Smyth, Reed, Warren, Crocker, Merritt, distinguished in military life and no less so at the bar, legislative halls or departments of the nation; Zimri Streeter, as full of good thoughts as he was of humor unsurpassed, and friendships only limited by his acquaintances; Pleasant and Amos Harris, Timothy Day, Moses W. Robinson, Freeman Alger, Evan Jay, John D. Elbert, H. G. Stewart, Jacob G. Vale (whose senatorial toga his son Benjamin now fitly wears), Theophilus Crawford, Thomas and C. G. Dibble, W. G. Haun, J. C. Jordan, Van Caldwell, O. D. Tisdale, Paton Wilson, Stewart Goodrell, Stephen B. Shellady Wm. Patterson, George Temple, Laurel Summers, John M. Whitaker, Henry Felkner (a member of the House fifty years since—his son, W. F., now follows in the same place, the honest footsteps of the father), Hardin Nowlin, George Hepner, Thomas McKean, R. R. Harbour, Hugh W. Sample, Jesse Bowen—laborers in our agricultural interests or in active business, and most of them making their impress in our legislative and constitutional history or elsewhere, and with marked good to the State. Fales, Reno and Jesse Williams, officials without stain in our earliest history, followed with equal efficiency and with like good name by Cutler, Bonney, McCreary, and James Wright, by Pattee, Cattell, Elliott, Faville, Wells, Hart, Miller, Benton, Fisher, and those always acceptable presiding officers, Wallace, Morgan, Hamilton, Brown, Eastman, Needham, Walden, Rusch, McFarland, and Clarke; and then there was Grimes, among the brainiest of all, a born politician, a Colossus among statesman, whether of Iowa or the nation; the banker, politician and able legislator, W. F. Coolbaugh; the young Ajax of the Seventh General Assembly, George W. McCreary, afterwards in the Commons of the nation, holding the war portfolio, and distinguished as a lawyer and a judge, and his great patron and instructor, S. F. Miller, who was a McGregor wherever met or in whatever engaged, and always at the head of the table; his partner, too, J. W. Rankin, bright and quick, ranking the highest in his profession and most popular as a Senator from the county of Lee where he ever had strength beyond his party; and his neighbor, Thomas W. Clagett, unlike all his compeers, and yet generous to a fault and ever working for the advancement of the city and county of his love, and for the agricultural and other interests of the State of his adoption; Gen. N. B. Baker,

“as generous as a prince of the royal blood,” New Hampshire’s governor, Iowa’s legislator and Adjutant-General, who in the hour of supreme danger, struck off all party shackles and sought alone to “maintain inviolate the constitution and sovereignty of the nation:” Alfred Rich, falling early in life, he was “an evergreen, and yet a never green, plant” and among the most brilliant and popular whether of the first or later days of our existence; Shepard Leffler, president of the first Constitutional Convention, having length of service equal perhaps, to any in the Senate and House of the Territory and State; with Hastings, elected to the first Congress after our admission, a Virginian of the old school, with good ability, he was always a favorite; Asahel W. Hubbard, a most popular judge in Indiana and here, for six years in Congress from the Sixth or Northwestern district, prominent in all things tending to the upbuilding of that new region, and as honest and true as any man representing the State at home or abroad: and there was his colleague and friend, Josiah B. Grinnell, a Christian gentleman, ever at home whether in a church, political, agricultural or any assembly, than whom few men ever attempted or accomplished more for Iowa’s growth and development in lines the most desirable; James B. Howell, the able lawyer, editor and Senator, of habits clean, manners most positive, in intelligence and study ranking with the best, whether in the chair of the editor or seat of the Senator; then there too was Eliphalet Price, rough exterior but of poetic nature, a most ready and interesting writer, lymphatic, and yet of great mental power, a good official and one of the most entertaining conversationalists I ever met; and his warm and constant friend, Timothy Davis, a member of the Thirty-fifth Congress, and of whom H. W. Starr once said, that he had enough nuggets of common sense to make him the fit head of the highest court of State, though he might never have read a law book; Henry P. Scholte, preacher, editor, lawyer, farmer, a Hollander by birth but an American in every fiber of his being; Ansel Briggs, first State Governor, from the Green Mountain State (as Hempstead was from Connecticut and Grimes from New Hampshire), a stage-driver in early life, a legislator in our Fifth Territorial Assembly, 1842, of pleasant address, plain and most unostentatious, whose utterance at a banquet, “no banks but earth, and these well tilled,” is said to have contributed largely, such was then the opposition to banks, to his nomination; Stephen Hempstead, elected Governor in 1850, of a family among the most distinguished, of fine presence, popular on the stump, most pleasing address, his last days were as sad as his professional and public life had been worthy of praise and emulation; Bernhart Henn, among the most faithful officers ever in public life, no constituent or “land buyer” ever appealed to him without aid, if in his power to give; those lights of the church, Henry Summers, Bell, Cowles, Young, Hare, Nash, Father Turner, Clark, Bishop Lee, Jameson, Ripley, Dean, Spaulding, Daniel Lane, who in cabin, the shaded forest, log school house, or in edifice more elegant, furnished abundant evidence that eloquence and ability were not confined to the bar or politics, and who stood head and shoulders with the ablest of Iowa or any State east or west. Nor must I omit those of the lower courts, Tuthill, E. H. Williams, Gray, Sears, Bradford, Isaac Cook, D. S. Wilson, Olney, Booth, Smyth, Loughridge, Mitchells (G. C. R. & John), Tracy, Conklin, Burt, Chase, who on small salaries and without books almost,

traveled large circuits and demonstrated the wisdom of the people in their selection; nor that group of able legislators, James Hall, T. S. Woolson, Hurley, W. T. Barker, John A. Parvin, Bradley, Gurley, J. B. & G. W. Teas, Benson, Negus, Bunker, Baker, Hughes, Sanford, Babbitt, Bonham, M. T. Williams, J. D. Test, and others equally worthy of mention, whose imprints are in our statutes during Territorial as well as the first quarter of our State history, and ever for good laws and their honest administration. Nor would I be excused if I omitted mention of some of our many noble women, such as Mesdames Fales, Reno, Wittenmeyer, Cook, Grimes, Isbell, Lowe, Woodward, Kirkwood, Dodge, Harlan, Jones, and how many others equally worthy, I cannot stop to name, who in their homes or in social life, in church and school room, by the couch of the suffering at home and the soldier in the hospital and camp, by untold labors, activities and ministrations, which politicians could not estimate, but grand good hearts everywhere appreciated, assisted far more than we are accustomed to concede in making Iowa as grand as it is, the peer of any, in her churches, Bibles and school-houses, patriotism and devotion to the Union, and in advanced legislation for the protection of themselves and all the women of the State, in rights essential to good government and good order throughout our borders. And referring finally to a few not heretofore named, who were of us two years since, now no more, James M. Love, the incomparable judge, as generous and affable as he was honest and full of true friendships, whose name was but another for manly bearing and monumental integrity; Coker F. Clarkson, a very Puritan in manner, knowing no compromise with evil or dishonest thought, a lover of his country and State, among the readiest and most vigorous writers of his day; and finally, our last President, a man of leonine mien, Edward Johnson, respected and admired by all and commanding most marked and deserved attention in any audience or any assembly; and with him, our late secretary, A. R. Fulton, as modest as he was cultured, the embodiment of industry and patient attention to duty, whether in legislative halls or the field of journalism, and of both of whom we shall hear much more, as I am advised during our session, and hence I do not refer to them, however much I should like to do so, at greater length.

But the list so increases that I must desist. Repeating the inquiry, however, may we not refer to it with pride and with a pleasure ever allowable, when we think of the history of our State and what a large share these men and women had in giving us our proud name and position in the great galaxy of the now forty-four.

But I look beyond or away from these mere names for a moment, and inquire of their work, how they discharged their several duties, about what it was they legislated and labored and how well or otherwise they executed, upheld, construed and enforced the laws.

Gentleman of the Association, it is an easier task to govern a State and administer its affairs, when all foundations are once well laid and its great principles fairly established, than to begin anew. In other words, it is easier to amend than to originate; "to conserve prosperity than create it"; and especially if in the early days all is experiment, with little money and poor constituency; while later, the foundations being well laid, there is a full treasury and little demanded beyond occasional amendments (and perhaps not these if the best interests of the people were consulted!) to meet the

changes which the growth and supposed new conditions of society render necessary.

Look back and see what these men accomplished. They made the Blue Book of 1839 (for six months this constituted my entire library), as also that of 1843, Code of 1851, the Revision of 1860, adopted three constitutions, tore up the very foundations of the common law, and especially in the important matter of pleading and practice in our courts, settled a most important and dangerous question affecting our southern boundary, passed all laws now the foundation of our railroad system, banks, all corporations, schools, taxation, county and municipal governments, those governing all the domestic relations, for the settlement of estates, and in a word everything relating to the local and internal affairs and government of the State. It is comparatively easy to amend these, with the lights and aids of after years and the experiences of other States, while it required the best thought and most patient investigation to build them all new, to determine what was best for a new people, for a new State, a people coming from New England and the South, the Middle States and the then West, and all parts of the civilized world, with their many and conflicting ideas as to what was best and safest. And as of legislation, so of the courts. Think of Mason, Williams, Wilson (who it is sad to know is lingering on the confines of the grave), Hall and others, for say fifteen years, if no more, of our Territorial and State life, without the semblance of a law library, as compared with what we now have (said to be among the five best in the nation)—with new constitutions to construe, without printed abstracts or printed briefs, all these statutes to which I have referred, to measure by the yard-stick of new fundamental laws, questions novel and most difficult, a people and society not quite like that of any other in then existing States, compelled to make their own blazes through the untrodden paths of judicial forests, few if any precedents to aid and no authorities, and then think of all the aids and lights to assist those now in their places.

And so without saying more, while I would not withhold the just meed of praise to those who have built so well on the foundations, and so well discharged their several official duties, nor claim too much for the influence of the vanishing past or the adventurous present or hopeful future, I nevertheless insist that the work of 1838 to 1860-'72, was fraught with greater difficulties, and that the then actors should ever be held in esteem, whether for the present or the great and—let us hope—ever progressing future of the State we all love so much.

There are some things, however, as we look back, and especially to those now in active life, that seem passing strange, and may well excite surprise. Who can believe now for instance, that a controversy between the owners of the "Decree and Judgment Titles" and the Settlers (in political nomenclature known as "Possums,") on the Half-Breed Tract, a tract of 119,000 acres between the Des Moines and Mississippi rivers in Lee county, shaded and almost controled for years the complexion of our General Assemblies. With from two to three Councilmen or Senators and from three to seven members of the House, from that rich and always strong county in the politics of the State, it can be readily seen that in a Senate or House composed of say thirteen to thirty members, the views of the representation, whether for or against the Settlers, was of the first importance. And hence it

occurred that whether Huner and Sprott, or Miller, or Clifton, or Johnston and Patterson, or Griffith, or Hammil, or Love, or Wright, were successful depended more or less, proposed or possible legislation as to "Real Actions," or the rights of the Settlers to recover for "improvements," when ousted their possessions, "Forcible Entry and Detainer," and the like. Now this is all changed. For while in those days litigation as to these titles was most rife in all the courts, and legislation constantly demanded, State and Federal, to-day we scarcely know there ever was a Half-Breed Tract, and perhaps in no part of Iowa is there a more quiet or orderly people, or one where the general laws are more faithfully executed.

Then, too, how like a romance it seems, that for years following 1846, the whole politics of the State, north as well as south, was influenced by fidelity to and belief in the practicability of improving the Des Moines river by slack water navigation? It was more than any man's political life was worth, whether a candidate for Governor, Congress or any office, for him to suggest a doubt even that the great work that was to give us a Lowell every ten miles at least, of the beautiful river, from its mouth to the north line of the State—to make us the great manufacturing State of the whole northwest—to invite skilled labor from all parts of the world—to give us a home market, unexampled and unexcelled, and also stately steamers upon the waters of this river, the whole iceless season of the year—I say faith, or want of faith on this subject, made and unmade many aspirants for public favor; and there were few things, if any, so prominent in our legislation or so influential in our elections. If a man like J. P. Cook or Sir Francis Burdette (Springer), or Gen. Shields, for instance, outside of what was called and known as the "Des Moines Republic," quietly and in confidence, suggested a doubt he was, by a friendly and very prompt hint, silenced, since his opposition might injure the prospects of the party to which he belonged. In 1850, like many other ambitious young men, I had my aspirations and made the race for Congress in the lower district, against that good and faithful democrat, Bernhart Henn. Hempstead was the democratic candidate for Governor, Rev. James L. Thompson, his competitor, George Gillespy, and James Nosler for Treasurer of this improvement. Some, or all of us, together or alone, visited almost every county in the district, made speeches, and the great body of the debate involved friendship or enmity to or luke-warmness in this great enterprise. The struggle was to beat your competitor in your asserted confidence in the ultimate success of the work, and praise to the government for the magnificent donation. I remember that I occasionally attempted to ridicule my competitor's devotion and his constant harping upon this topic, and was accustomed to tell that he would, in his sleep (we often occupied the same bed in the hotels and cabins where we stopped), shout, "I am loyal to the Des Moines river improvement," and that once, seeing a man in a field, both started to shake his hand and that he, being fleeter of foot, approached the supposed voter first, hurrahing for the "Des Moines river improvement," only to find that it was a *dummy* to protect the corn! And I remember also that when at Ottumwa, in 1853 perhaps, I, as one of the Commissioners, drew and we consummated a contract with the New York Company, through Col. Henry O'Reilly, which was to result, as we supposed, in the completion of the work; the town was illuminated, we had bon-fires on every corner, a banquet in the

evening, followed by the most patriotic and inspiring speeches, and the press of the State eulogized the Commissioners, foretold the consequences to the State, and O'Reilly and all those connected with that contract, were the lions of the day! Some of us Whigs, it is true, entertained a doubt whether the grant extended above the Raccoon Forks, and for this expression of even an occasional distrust, we were charged with want of zeal in the cause and the people were appealed to by the press and from the stump, to defeat us and elect those who were loyal to a scheme so necessary to the State's advancement and future greatness! Look through our legislative and official documents, including message after message of our Governors, and you will see how fierce the contention was to occupy front rank on this all absorbing enterprise. The years passed on, the whole work abandoned, scarcely a locked dam or a damned lock left to tell the story. Railroads traverse the whole valley and we not only laugh now at such zeal, but are amazed that with the means at command, or with all needed means, it was ever thought practicable.

May I refer to one other matter in this connection? The constitution of November, 1844, was defeated at the August election of 1845, by the small majority of 421, or 7,235 for and 7,656 against it. Thus narrowly did we escape being admitted into the Union with a western boundary which cut off at least one-fourth, if not more, of our present area. Now, how incredible it seems that the people should have been so evenly divided upon a question that to us of the present day, has but one side. This grew, among other things, out of the following considerations: 1. The oft-repeated assertion that we could not get more, and if we did not come in with these boundaries we could not at all, or at least not for a long time. 2. There was a good deal of political human nature then as now and there were not a few interested in admission on any terms to the end that they might be Governors, Senators, Congressmen, Marshals, Judges and possess all the offices under the new deal. 3. As already intimated, the strong opposition to all banks of issue or possible favors to corporations, and since this constitution prohibited all and everything like paper money, it met favor for this reason, though it might have been objectionable to many such on other grounds. 4. But the strongest argument against it, I think, was that the territory west of the proposed line was a *desert* and would be a *burden* instead of an *advantage* to the new State. There were those who said, and as I believe in all honesty, that what we now know as the Missouri Slope, with its cities and towns, its soil perhaps, unequaled by any of like area, with its great wealth and increasing in an almost unexampled ratio—would not be settled in a hundred years. How entirely improbable this all seems now? For the man that would suggest this to-day would either "be shot on the spot," or sent to an asylum. And how thankful, therefore, we ought to be for the 421 voters who held out against all arguments, resulting in the convention of 1846, under which, and the second sober thought of the Federal Congress we obtained our present area, with the great rivers of the west on either side, "flowing like the affections of our people, to an inseparable union." Reflecting upon this incident, the great delusion under which so many then labored, I have been led to believe that there are no deserts in this American republic, and what are now so styled will in time, by irrigation or some means or agencies to be devised, be reclaimed and made to blossom and

produce, if not like western Iowa, at least to such an extent as to add to the wealth and greatness of our country and to demonstrate anew that it is without a rival in progress and development among the nations of the world, old or new. Whether my assumption be true or not, however, let us be thankful, I repeat, that we have our present boundaries, including the once feared and dreaded Missouri Slope.

Turn we now for a short time to the future. These re-unions are profitable in proportion as they assist in the future work of the State. This we may do in many ways. Among others, allow me to mention that it would seem to be a part and appropriately of our work to call attention to the need of immediate and most active efforts in compiling, collecting and preserving all, whether in records, transactions or biographies or otherwise, that go to make up the history of the State. The actors in our past legislation, schools, churches, executive and judicial departments, in our agricultural, horticultural and the whole wide field of industrial development, are passing away. Thus far in the line indicated, and all, I fear, indeed, I may say I know, we are quite behind many of our sister States. That this is so consult the libraries and collections; look for a moment at the catalogues published and sent broadcast over the land of our sister States no older nor richer than Iowa, nor, I trust, with more State pride; and how comparatively insignificant our work, and how every citizen of the State has cause for shame and mortification in this respect. In view of this fact and others to be referred to, it seems to me that this is not only an opportune occasion, to urge and inculcate more zeal in the line indicated, but that the time now lost will be lost forever. As we know, one of our members, Prof. Parvin has been most diligent and has removed from old halls, pigeon holes, basement rooms and other dark receptacles, documents and historical data of the greatest value, and for which he is entitled to the lasting gratitude of all our people. In the same line, but upon a larger and perhaps more valuable scale, because among other things he has given it more exclusive attention, I may refer to the labors of our most excellent Secretary, Charles Aldrich. For years, as we know it was with him, a labor of love, he serving without money and without price, save that which comes from the unstinted praise of friends, which shall swell and become more and more valuable as his labors shall be more and more appreciated. For the past two years he has had compensation and assistance, and though most meager, most acceptable I am sure, as far as it goes. I have said this was an opportune time to enlarge this work. And we must have it now and of the most helpful kind. He or some one must continue the needed work of collecting books, public documents, original letters, State and county maps, portraits, biographical memoranda of early settlers, swords, commissions and like of our officers and soldiers in the late and all wars, collections illustrating the arts, arms and industries of our Indian Tribes, fossils, pre-historic implements showing our natural history, these and other matters readily occurring to you and which I have not time to enumerate, should be gathered now by competent hands, for the years as already suggested will not be many when they will be impossible of attainment. Then, the advisability of this is just now peculiarly pressing. Within the next two years there will be held near us, the largest, richest, and to be the most largely attended exposition ever in this or in any other country. Iowa, and all the States will be there fully represented in all the matters above

indicated, as well as in others of equal interest. In passing I may say, that I for one, favor the most liberal appropriation to this exposition, at all consistent with our finances and yet to the extent and only to the extent fully needed, that the State may have an exhibit worthy our pride and our admitted high standing among our sister commonwealths. Every dollar spent will be returned in many ways, fifty and even an hundred fold. But while I might, and would, did the time allow, say much more in this line, I refer to this exhibit especially to suggest that from the immense amount of material there collected under proper supervision and with needed means there will be found the richest store-house from which to select and make more and more valuable what we already have. Miss this and we miss the opportunity of a century, if not indeed of all time. To this end and to the accomplishment of what we shall all so much desire, we need united, concerted and systematic work all along the line. We must have assistance as well as zeal and enthusiasm. So, too, we must have increased room and facilities for placing and taking care of these collections. And hence it seems to me the law-making power either by enlarging the work of the Historical Society and other like agencies, or what would be better, by concentrating and unifying effort in one line and under one supervision in rooms to be provided at the Capitol, or by such methods as the best thought develop should in aid thereof make most liberal appropriations. And from no body of men could an appeal on this subject come with more propriety, and let me suggest, with more force and influence than from those now before me.

Am I asked, what else? I answer that if our members would make it more and more a duty to prepare, and prepare with thought and care, papers upon subjects connected with our early history, and if by the continued liberality of our Legislature, our proceedings shall, as I doubt not they will, be published in a preservable and inviting form, we shall do no little in keeping alive this history. To this end it is not needful that such papers shall relate alone to legislation or matters connected with the political or official affairs of the State. On the contrary, suppose some one would give us a well authenticated account of the organization of our State Agricultural Society, or of our first county organization in that line; or the history of the so-called Missouri war, involving our southern boundary; or how and under what circumstances our counties, and especially those in the western part of the State, were named and their meanings; or the incidents and history of the Mormon exodus from Nauvoo, the passage of that people through Iowa, their temporary settlement in large numbers at Kainsville (now Council Bluffs) and vicinity, and of our elections about that time in which they bore an important part; some one or more of several celebrated murder trials, as for instance that for the killing of Col. Davenport at Rock Island, or of the trial of Peck, McCaully, Hariman, Foutz, Nash, Jones, and others; or where and how many of our first courts were held and so-called primitive justice administered; something of the opening of our first lead and coal mines and their subsequent great development and, especially the latter, and how much this product has added to the wealth of the State, and how many other kindred subjects, I cannot stop to enumerate; but I say, if we could have such papers and documents we should aid largely in preserving our history in many, the most desirable lines. And then if, in addition, those who have filled a large space in the development of the

State, would follow the example of the late lamented J. B. Grinnell, and prepare reminiscences (his, I am glad to know we are soon to have) not necessarily for present publication, or during the writer's life-time, but for use in the coming years, it can be seen again what a mine of wealth we would have, and how much those to follow would be aided in preparing a later and further history of that Iowa than which we fondly think there is none prouder, none more worthy of the fullest preservation.

But excuse me. I talk too long. I have hurriedly thrown together these suggestions. If worthy of attention so treat them. If not, pass them over and search out, as I doubt not you can, better ways for the accomplishment of the objects of the Association.

And now, gentlemen, again thanking you, and extending to you most hearty greetings as we come together in this year of grace, 1892, expressing my great pleasure that so many are permitted to meet once more in this beautiful and growing Capital City, I only add (quoting in part from another), "We have recalled somewhat of the past. What shall be the future? The gift of prophecy is mercifully withheld from man: Hope, kindlier than prophecy, stands in the place of it—the just and reasonable hope instructed from what has gone before." The memories of the past, our State pride and that kindliness of feeling which age should ever bring, let me hope, "raise us far above the jargon and turmoil of the poor quarrels of the hour which seem at times to oppose to our vision, obstacles dangerous and portentous." Men shall come and men shall go; legislative assemblies shall meet and adjourn; laws good, bad and indifferent shall be made; we individually, in political contests and otherwise, have met with disappointments and have had our ephemeral triumphs and may have them again; but the sure foundations of the State and the Great Republic shall stand. "Patriotism and devotion shall and often as heretofore bring them out resplendent from even darker days," if they come, than those we have ever known; and as we pass away and turn our work over to others, I, and I trust you also, "looking forward to the open glare of the dying century, with the eyes of hope, shall see an advancing civilization, not without the vicissitudes, the blemishes, the mistakes, the sorrows, through which humanity's path must always lie, but in which the gain shall still surpass the loss and the better surmount the worse, enlightened from generation to generation by an increasing intelligence, broader knowledge, higher morality, alleviated and illuminated as it was in the beginning by the inexhaustible blessing of our father's God."

Music, violin duet, "Swanee River," by Misses Smith and Welsh, of Boone.

The Chairman appointed as committee on nominations, Messrs. P. M. Casady, Samuel McNutt and Mr. Hilton; as committee on resolutions, Messrs. Reuben Noble, F. D. Campbell, Geo. W. Bemis and Ed. Campbell.

Here a communication from the House of Representatives, signed by Messrs. Linderman, Lane and Campbell, was read, as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT:—We are directed by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Fourth General Assembly, to extend a cordial invitation to the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, to visit the House of Representatives this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

On motion the invitation was accepted.

On motion of Judge Casady, Hon. Barlow Granger was elected an honorary member of this Association.

By motion of Judge Casady, Mr. Frank A. Sherman was also made an honorary member of the Association.

By the Chairman: I appoint as committee to make known the acceptance of the invitation of the House, Major Hoyt Sherman, Dr. Wright and Mr. McNutt.

The Association was then addressed by Hon. Theodore S. Parvin, as follows:

GLIMPSES OF EARLY IOWA, OR RECOLLECTIONS OF TERRITORIAL TIMES.

BY T. S. PARVIN.

[Delivered before the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association at their third biennial reunion
February 10, 1892.]

BLACK-HAWK WAR.

It was during the year 1832, famous throughout the country as the cholera year, which wrought such devastation through our western as well as eastern populations, that I well remember, as we boys had assembled in the preparatory school where we were being worked up for entrance to college, that one of the boys had a paper containing a notice of a great event in the western part of Illinois which subsequently became known as the "Black-Hawk War," originating upon Rock river in Illinois, under the leadership of the famous chief Black-Hawk, and terminating with the battle of Bad Axe, Wisconsin, in the summer of that year.

Indian wars and rumors of wars were not so frequent then as in these later days, and the event created a profound impression upon the minds of the youth there assembled in the chief city of Ohio. That event not only elicited great interest throughout the States of the "Great West," as the States of the Mississippi valley were then termed, but throughout the country, and was pregnant of great and future results. It led to the cession of a strip of territory bordering on the Mississippi on the west, some thirty miles in width, extending from the Des Moines river to the land of the Sioux on the north, called then the "Black-Hawk Purchase," and soon to become known as the "Iowa District." This event, opening up to settlement the garden spot of the West, marks the first great epoch in the history of Iowa.

None of the boys, and least of all myself, of the readers of that paper then

dreamed that in the future several of us would become residents and actors among the men who were to become the future settlers of the lands thus ceded.

IOWA ATTACHED TO MICHIGAN.

Two years later (1834), when a sophomore, I well remember that the Professor of Ancient Languages, an Alumnus of Harvard College, met us as we entered the class room with Horace Delphini under our arms, with a newspaper containing an account of a recent trial in Judge Lynch's court which the dignified professor termed "mob law," occurring in the Dubuque Lead Mines of the Iowa District aforesaid. The staid old Puritanism of the professor was so shocked that he forgot the lesson of the hour, read the recitals of the event from the paper to the class and invited remarks from its members upon the subject.

The facts were that a miner had murdered his partner in the bluffs bordering on what is now the city, but then the small village of Dubuque. The fellow miners of the murdered man seized the murderer, and as there were no courts in the district, carried him over the river to Galena, the chief if not the only town of any size in all the region north of the Rock river, Illinois, and west of the great chain of Lakes. The court there properly held that it had no jurisdiction, whereupon the miners carried their victim back, improvised a court, selected jury and officers, assigned one of their number to the prisoner as his counsel, proceeded to try him and found him guilty, when Judge Lynch sentenced him to be hung by the neck till he was dead, following the usual forms of law. The sheriff of the hour, assisted by a *posse comitatus*, executed the sentence and he was hung and the district rid of a murderer.

Some members of the class, as well as many people, disapproved the act, while as the leader of the class I well remember that I earnestly supported the court, upholding its doings, and so became the advocate of a people with whom, strange to say, four years later I became well acquainted, and the chief officers of that court became in later years among the most distinguished and useful of our public citizens.

This event, too, was pregnant of great results. It reached the ears of Congress and led to the enactment of a law providing that Wisconsin and Iowa be "attached to the Territory of Michigan for judicial purposes," and thus the "Iowa District" west of the Mississippi, including the present States of Iowa, Minnesota and Dakota, were brought under the dominion of the civil law and government of the land from which it had been excluded since the admission of Missouri in 1821, prior to which time it had been a part of the Territory of Indiana and later of Missouri.

IOWA TERRITORY ORGANIZED.

Notwithstanding we had no railroads and telegraphs in those days, time and its events moved rapidly on, and on the Fourth of July, 1838, Iowa, which, since the spring of 1836 had been a part of Wisconsin, was separated and erected into a territorial government, known as Iowa Territory.

Having been an actor, though in a humble way, in many of the most important events of that era, I propose to speak somewhat from my personal knowledge by way of recollection and reminiscences of the "Pioneer Law-Makers" and others of Iowa, and relate

“The old, old story that never grows old,
The saddest or sweetest that tongue ever told.”

When Iowa was organized there was not a public road or highway worthy of the name in all the Territory. The weekly mail to Burlington, which became the Capital, was brought in coaches from the east over the National or Cumberland road to Indianapolis, and west once a week in a two horse hack, carried in the same way to Davenport, and then horseback to Dubuque. The postage on our letters was twenty five-cents, payable on delivery.

So little did the people of the far east know of this, then the “far west”, now Iowa, that I well remember a letter from the State Department addressed to his Excellency the Governor, Burlington Iowa, was several weeks reaching its destination. The good Postmaster at Washington City sent it first to Burlington, New Jersey, evidently ignorant that there was any other Burlington. It was returned to Washington, again mailed and this time it reached Burlington, Vermont, when there being no such “excellent” person as Robert Lucas it was carried back to Washington. Then the Postmaster endorsed upon it “For God’s sake let this letter go to some other Burlington, wherever it may be.” There were no envelopes in those days and the endorsement of the Postmaster was on the back of the letter well sealed with wafers, sealing wax, and the big stamp of the Department. That letter was an object of curiosity, shown to many persons during the winter of 1838, and I have always regretted that I had not laid it aside and substituted a copy, to the end that it might now find its way into the famous Aldrich Collection of to-day in our State Capitol.

HOW IOWANS CAME BY THE COGNOMEN OF HAWKEYES.

The Governor, Territorial officers, and leading citizens of Burlington, were accustomed to meet from time to time in the parlor of the Burlington House, kept by L. J. Lockwood, where the Governor and his staff were domiciled. At one of the early meetings of this social group the question arose and was discussed, by what cognomen should the settlers of Iowa be known.

James G. Edwards, editor of the *Burlington Patriot*, soon to be changed to *Hawk-Eye*, and who in future years became known as “Old Hawk,” suggested (as had a correspondent of his paper, Hon. David Rorer, before) the name of *Hawkeye*, which was universally agreed to, when he came out in an editorial endorsing the action of the improvised Senate.

At that time Jesse Williams, who afterwards became Secretary of the Territory, and myself, were members of the Governor’s staff, and correspondents for leading papers, Williams for the *Ohio Statesman* at Columbus, the leading Democratic paper in the west, edited by Sam. Medary; I, for the *Cincinnati Gazette*, for many years the leading paper in the west, edited by my old friend Chas. Hammond, and later by my preceptor in the law, Judge Wright (John C.), who, in 1836, was Chairman of the Whig National Committee, having in charge the canvass of General Harrison (the grandfather of the present President) for the presidency. We made a big blow over the name and it went like prairie fire over the land, was universally received and accepted as the title by which all Iowa people were to be, and are now, known.

In this connection I might mention a little anecdote of our Secretary of the Territory, Hon. Wm. B. Conway. He with a number of us were on our way, in the mid-winter of 1838, to Fort Madison to become the guests of the good people of that village. The ride was a cold one and we stopped at a prairie cabin to warm and refresh ourselves. Conway was a talkative man and soon became engaged in conversation with the good hostess, who was surrounded by about as many children as was John Rogers in the times of old. In response to a query of Conway's she said that "all of her children, save the one in her arms (which was busily contributing to its physical comfort), were 'Suckers,'" that is, natives of Illinois. "My dear madam," said Conway, "I should think that *that* little fellow was a sucker also," which created a hearty laugh on the part of all present, including the mother.

NEWSPAPERS OF THAT PERIOD.

Having alluded to the fact that James G. Edwards was the editor and publisher of the *Burlington Patriot*, later *Burlington Hawk-Eye*, which has continued uninterrupted to this hour, I might add that he had come in the spring (March) of 1838, from Jacksonville, Illinois, where he had published a paper, bringing with him his press and materials, and started the *Fort Madison Patriot*, which upon the separation of Iowa from Wisconsin and the making of Burlington its capital, he removed in December to the latter city. In point of age it was the third of the only three papers then existing in the Territory, the oldest being the *Iowa Territorial Gazette*, published and edited at Burlington by James Clarke, who succeeded Conway as Secretary of the Territory and later became and was the last of the Territorial Governors.

This paper, brought from Belmont, Wisconsin, had been founded and published the preceding year by Clarke and John B. Russell.

The third was the *Dubuque News* edited and published by Russell and Reeves, the foreman in the office being Andrew Keesecker, who had worked upon the *Dubuque Visitor*, a paper published by John King during the year May, 1836, to May, 1837. A copy of the old *Dubuque Visitor*, the first paper published in Iowa, is in a perfect state of preservation and in the custody of an old settler, whose life has been wasted by strong drink and who is living upon the charity of those who knew him in better days, and yet he knows so well the value of that paper that he has refused every effort of mine and others to secure it, even though I have offered him \$50 for the bound volume. The State should possess that volume which contains much, indeed more of the history of Iowa for the year of its publication than can be found elsewhere throughout Iowa.

The libraries of Congress, the Astors, and the British Museum, each paid \$1,000 for complete files of the *Richmond Enquirer*, published at the capital of the Confederate States during the years of our civil strife, which shows the value set upon such historical documents by those most competent to judge and capable of appreciating their importance.

An incident had occurred in the period immediately preceding the Black-Hawk war, illustrating the value and the agency of newspapers in the making as well as recording of historical events. Keokuk, who became the successor of Black-Hawk as chief of the confederated tribes of Sacs and Foxes, was friendly in his disposition toward the whites and deprecated the

acts of Black-Hawk which were so likely to lead to open warfare, whereupon he dictated a letter to the editor of one of the village papers whom he styled as *Village Crier*, adding that "If you Criers do not stop saying so much about Black-Hawk you will make a great man of him. He does not amount to much now."

The influence of the three papers, ably edited as they were, and which would compare favorably with a like number of the weekly papers of to-day, was great, not only in the shaping of events of that period, but in the making of some of the men who became conspicuous in the early and later periods of our State history.

Messrs. Clarke, Russell and Edwards, were practical printers and made most excellent editors. Mr. Edwards continued in charge of his paper until his death, many years later. Mr. Clarke was from Pennsylvania and at the head of (what by partisans was charged as) the "Pennsylvania junto" or clique, for Iowa had its cliques even at that early day. Upon assuming the gubernatorial functions of the Territory Mr. Clarke disposed of his interest to John McKenny, who had been his foreman, became later sheriff of the county, and upon the election of Polk as President was appointed Register of the land office at Brownsville, Minnesota. Later, however, Mr. Clarke re-purchased and continued as editor of the paper he had founded and which continues under the old title, while the *Dubuque News* was later transformed into the *Miners' Express*, and then the *Dubuque Herald* of to-day. These three papers are now among the leading dailies, as they were then the only weeklies of Iowa.

The creation of Iowa into a territorial government awakened not only a profound interest among the few thousands of people residing in the river counties but throughout the land, and a spirit of emigration arose in the eastern and middle states, leading many to pull up stakes and remove to what was then known as the "New Country" or "Black-Hawk Purchase." People in those days did not travel by rail as now, but came in the summer by water, down the Ohio from Pittsburg and up the Mississippi as far as Dubuque, which was the frontier town on the north. During the months when navigation was suspended they came by land, most of them traveling by their own conveyances, and we have shaken hands with the heads of many families who drove their own team, and brought their few household goods all the way from the Nutmeg State.

FIRST ELECTION.

During the summer, in company with Governor Lucas, I traveled from Keokuk to Dubuque, stopping some days at each of the landings, as the villages were called at that time. The first election for members of the Territorial Legislature came off during one of these trips, when, seeing a crowd upon the river's bank at what is now Sabula, we inquired of the captain of the *Brazil* what was the occasion of the gathering. He said "it was the voting precinct and would we like to vote," whereupon he ran the steamer to the shore, let us off, and as the election was held under the proclamation of the Governor, in the absence of all territorial law or any law save that of Congress, our request to vote was readily granted, and then and there I cast my maiden vote, which was for Peter Hill Engle, one of the four candidates for Congress, the successful candidate being William Wil-

liams Chapman, of Burlington, who still lives, an octogenarian, in Portland, Oregon.¹

His other competitors were David Rorer, of Burlington, who became one of the most prominent of Iowa lawyers, the author of a number of law books of standard value, and who erected the first brick house in the territory of Iowa, and laid with his own hand the first brick. In later years when, by the growth of the city, the lot was demanded for the erection of a large and fine block, the house was torn down, he watching the process until they came to the last brick which he himself removed and used as a paper weight upon his desk until his decease.

He was short of stature, had come to Iowa from Arkansas where he had grown up under the influence of the peculiar society of that frontier State and age, and while a very companionable and genial man, because of the strife in which he became involved during this canvass, became engaged in a personal encounter, which from its results, for many years marred his usefulness, but which he outlived, and was known and respected as an honored and honorable citizen.

The remaining competitor was Benj. F. Wallace, a young lawyer of Mt. Pleasant, who became the first Secretary of the Council of the Territory. His brother, a somewhat pompous man with a high appreciation of his own abilities, was Speaker of the first House, and later became prominent not only in the affairs of Iowa, but of the Territories of the west, having been appointed Governor and later became Territorial delegate from two of the Territories, Washington and Idaho, in the Rocky Mountain region.

Mr. Engle, who was the ablest of all the candidates, had been Speaker of the Wisconsin House of Representatives before the separation of Iowa, and after his defeat removed to St. Louis, where he rose to great distinction at the bar and became Judge of one of its leading Courts. All of these men, as also all of the editors and those connected with their press, save one, are dead.

George Paul, recently postmaster at Iowa City, and for some years sheriff, and a most useful member of the Legislature from Johnson county, worked in the office of the *Fort Madison Patriot* and later the *Territorial Gazette*, and upon the removal of the capital from Burlington to Iowa City, engaged upon the old *Capital Reporter*, now the *State Press*, of which he later became publisher and editor.

Upon the occasion of our first visit to Dubuque we stopped at a two story frame tavern kept by a man named John Plumb, Jr., who had a son, a civil engineer, who was an enthusiast, almost to the becoming of a monomaniac, upon the subject of a *Railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Ocean*. His table in the hotel was covered with maps and plats, and he bored every visitor with a description of the route, the feasibility of the construction of such a road, and always wound up by declaring that he himself would live to see the construction of such a road. To this youthful Iowa enthusiast belongs the honor of being the first projector, in theory at least, of the great Pacific highway, which thirty years later (1868) was consummated, and the iron rail became the bond of union between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

But so readily are the services of the pioneers passed by and their names

(1) NOTE.—Mr. Chapman has since deceased, Nov. 9, 1892.

even forgotten, that he, like many another of those who were so largely instrumental in the "making of Iowa" have been forgotten or overlooked by the historian or would-be historians of to-day.

FIRST NEWSPAPER.

It was upon the occasion of this visit to Dubuque that I made the acquaintance of John King, the founder and editor of Iowa's first newspaper, and who lived to render much service to his adopted State as one of its most useful citizens and leaders in the horticultural development which has made Iowa the garden spot of the Mississippi valley. He was from Ohio, and while not a printer by trade, was fortunate in the selection of one Andrew Keesecker to do his work, who became the most famous printer that Iowa has yet produced, and who only some twenty years ago (1870) passed from among the living after having spent thirty and more years of his life in the disseminating of light and knowledge through the Press among the people at home and abroad, touching the resources of the State to whose interest he was so earnestly wedded.

He was a fast as well as useful type setter, with a little impediment in his speech and not overly religiously inclined. It is related of him that one time he offered a wager with a fellow printer, who afterwards became prominent as an editor both in Iowa City and Dubuque, and who still lives, our good old friend Mr. Wood¹, to determine which was the fastest type sticker. They agreed to set up the Lord's Prayer, and each to conclude with the word Amen, audibly pronounced. Keesecker came out ahead and tried to pronounce the word, but stuttered so badly that Wood pronounced it distinctly first. When Keesecker said, "That is what I have been trying to say the last half hour." Upon comparing the work they found that Wood, who was a Christian man, had followed the New Testament text, while the memory of his school days was more lasting with Keesecker who had set it as he had learned it in his New England primer of earlier years. While so many of these men and others have passed away, verily their works survive them.

GENERAL JONES.

After visiting the Lead Mines awhile we started for Galena, which was the head of steamboat navigation on the Mississippi, or rather one of its smallest tributaries, Fever river. On our way the carriage in which we were being driven broke down and we had to foot it some two or three miles to Sinsinawa Mound, then the residence of General George W. Jones, who was delegate in Congress from Wisconsin and through whose efforts the division of the Territory had taken place and the organic law creating Iowa enacted.

The General still lives, a hearty pioneer, at an advanced age, a resident of Dubuque where he has resided for, lo, these many years, and he is so well known to all of the public men and readers of Iowa history that we need not speak of him, further than to say that he proved himself to us, as he has to every one since, most hospitable, kind, and courteous. He not only welcomed us to his house but provided an ample meal for us and took us in his own carriage on our way rejoicing to Galena, where we met many of the pioneers of that, the oldest frontier town in the great northwest. (The

NOTE—(1) Mr. Wood has deceased since the delivery of this address.

General was present and heartily thanked the speaker for this kind allusion to him.)

ANTOINE LE CLAIRE.

Returning we stopped at Davenport and became the guests of Antoine Le Claire, who boasted that "he was the first white settler in Iowa." As to the settlement no one would question his statement but he was a quarter-blood Indian, his father being a French trader, his mother a half-blood Indian, and he himself for many years a chief interpreter of the Sacs, of which Black-Hawk and Keokuk were, in their day, head Chiefs.

Mrs. Le Claire could not speak English but conversed in a French patois. As we were fresh from the halls of learning and a fair French scholar we were at table assigned to a place beside the good dame, when between the English, the French and the patois we had a hard road, like Jordan, to travel.

However the old gentleman, Le Claire, with whom we later became most intimately acquainted, complimented us upon our success.

IOWA — THE BEAUTIFUL LAND.

Later, when editing the Annals of Iowa (1864), published by our State Historical Society, and when the question as to the origin of the name came up for discussion, we addressed a letter to Mr. Le Claire and received from him his version, which was that Iowa meant, "This is the land," or "The Beautiful Land," the name given by the people of his tribe when they first reached the bluffs on the eastern bank of the Mississippi and overlooked the promised land beyond. It is true that this does not correspond with the ill-natured definition assigned in the appendix to Webster's Dictionary, but it is that which has been universally adopted by all the people of our State, and will remain to substantiate the correctness of the interpretation given by the venerable and patriotic interpreter, settler, and pioneer of the land.

With Colonel Davenport, who had been in command of old Fort Armstrong on the Island, he became the founder of the city of Davenport. At that time the block-houses of the old Fort stood on the point of the Island just south and west of the present railroad bridge and crossing, and it is a shame that the vandalism, for which the American people are the most noted of any since the vandals of the Roman period, led our people to destroy those last relics of the Fort, so famous in the early history of Iowa and Illinois.

At Montrose, the head of the Des Moines Rapids on the Mississippi, there stood at that time an orchard of apple trees which had been planted by Louis Honore Tesson, a French settler and trader, at that point in the last decade of the last century.

Later when a Clerk of the United States Court, the title of the land in question became involved, the old deed was presented by the Chouteau heirs claiming title under sheriff's sale, the forms of the old Roman law coming down to this Iowa region through France and Spain having obtained.

The executive officer of the court in St. Louis, where judgment had been rendered, came up to Iowa, then without a name, levied upon the property by taking a handful of earth, a twig from one of the apple trees, and an old iron kettle, as the representatives of the tract in question, bore them with him by *pirogue*, the only method of navigation at that period save the

Indian canoe, and in front of the Catholic church on three successive Sabbaths made proclamation of sale, when the sale took place, the transfer made and recorded in the deed which I long had in possession, a copy of which I placed in the "Historical Society" as a relic of early law times in what is now Iowa.

FIRST WORK ON IOWA.

It may not be improper to mention another historical incident in this connection. At that early period I made the acquaintance of Lieutenant Albert M. Lea, who was connected with the corps of United States engineers making a survey of the "Des Moines Rapids of the Mississippi" above the mouth of the Des Moines river. The county of Lee had been previously organized and he always claimed that it was named for himself, but that, through the ignorance of the clerk in transcribing the bill, it was spelled L-e-e, whereupon General Robert E. Lee, afterward chief of the confederate armies, who was then in charge of the survey on the rapids, has always had the credit or honor of giving his own name to the county.

Albert M. Lea, whose name is perpetuated in one of the most thriving towns on the B., C. R. & N. railroad in Southern Minnesota, was the author of the *first work* ever published upon or relating to Iowa, a small 12mo volume written and published by himself in the summer of 1836, entitled, "Notes on Wisconsin Territory and the Iowa District," with a map.

But three copies of that, the first and most interesting work on Iowa, now exist, one of which is in the *Iowa Department* (placed there by myself) of the "Iowa Masonic Library," and presented to me by the author in the summer of 1838, when I first met him. The edition was shipped from Philadelphia, where it was published, and the boat upon which it was shipped, in descending the Ohio, was sunk and the edition destroyed by the accident.

The subject of the names or origin of the names of our several counties is one of historic interest, and some of them, like that of Lee county, involved in much obscurity.

Lieutenant Lea recently died at Corsicana, Texas, at an advanced age of upwards of eighty years.

EDWARD JOHNSTONE.

The year, and also the early succeeding years, of the settlement of the Territory was one of unusual sickness, the prevailing diseases of that day being the bilious fever, with fever and ague, not the chills and fever of a later period which was the original disease much diluted, but the old fashioned ague with which people shook from the crown of the head to the soles of the feet.

It was at a period very soon after my location in Burlington that the good landlady, Mrs. Lockwood, who afterwards became the wife of the first Auditor of the State of Iowa, Mr. Fales, and later figured largely as one of the blessed angels who ministered to the comfort of the sick and wounded and dying soldier during the War of the Rebellion, as a noble member of the Nightingale Corps, asked me one evening if I would not accompany her to a law office near by to see a sick young man confined therein. Of course I readily assented and soon after was ushered into a small room where I found lying sick with a fever a young lawyer who afterwards became noted

and prominent in the history of Iowa and of this Association. I well remember his greeting of his guardian angel as she extended to him her hand and with it the hasty plate of soup for his nourishment.

I soon found that he was becoming convalescent and ere long he was restored to the society of the young men of which he was a bright and shining ornament. The young man was Edward Johnstone, whose recent death has deprived this Association of its President and one of its most active, useful and honored members. Like many another of that period he had come to Iowa with but little of this world's goods.

In a modest way he later related to me that when he arrived at St. Louis, he found from his long detention by reason of low water and the increased demand upon his funds that he did not have the sum wherewith to pay his passage to Burlington. In this dilemma he noticed in a paper of the city a card offering a premium in behalf of the proprietors of a new theater about to be opened, for a poem to be recited at the opening.

Here he thought was his opportunity, and being somewhat poetically inclined and with a poetic spirit cast in his veins, he wrote off a poem, mailed it as directed, and remained with fear and trembling awaiting the result.

Mr. Johnstone went to the theater that evening and was agreeably surprised to hear his own poem recited. The next day, when he saw a notice in the paper bidding the writer of a certain poem with a fictitious name, which he had attached, to call at the office and receive the reward, he felt a spirit of gladness such as had never before crossed the shadow of his life. Of him I shall take pleasure in speaking at another time and to a greater length.

KEOKUK'S VISIT.

A notable event of some interest occurred at Burlington in the early fall of 1838. It was a visit of state made to the Governor and other territorial officers by Keokuk, the head Chief of the Sac and Fox tribes which were the principal Indian tribes then occupying the territory. He was accompanied by his braves, no squaws being permitted to share in the visit. The leading citizens were assembled at the Burlington Hotel when the *pow-wow* or address was made by Keokuk (who was a most eloquent and natural orator), and the response by his Excellency Governor Lucas.

Being at that time somewhat versed and proficient as a short hand writer I took the speeches down, and a few years since, coming across my manuscript, which I had fortunately translated from my notes, published the address of Keokuk in the Historical Record of our State Historical Society. I remember upon one occasion that Keokuk and other chiefs of his tribe were summoned to Washington to meet the Secretary of War in connection with the chiefs of the Sioux tribes upon our north. The interview took place in a large church where a platform had been erected for the Secretary and other high officials, placed in front, with the chief of either tribe arranged in lines upon either side facing each other. The chief of the Sioux, whose name I have forgotten, in addressing the Secretary stood with his back to the audience, composed largely of the fair ladies of Washington. When Keokuk came to reply he rose and stood as he had been sitting, so that he might cast his eyes readily not only toward the Secretary, but upon the left to the ladies in the audience, when he arraigned his opponent and charged him with a want of gallantry, in that he had stood with his back

rather than with his face toward the ladies the whole time of his discourse, which showed that he was a man of gallantry as well as of policy in his intercourse with his fellow citizens of the white race.

The coming spring it was arranged that the Governor, with his friends, should make a return call and visit Keokuk and his braves at their home, and I well remember the extent of the preparations made for the occasion to which all had been looking forward for several weeks if not months. We secured tents, baggage wagons, with bedding, cooking stoves, and utensils, with provisions in abundance as if for a long journey, and then we wended our way over the prairies and across the streams, bridgeless as they were, the only landmark being the Indian trail for a part of the way. And where, my good friends, do you suppose we were journeying? Not to the far off Council Bluffs, or even Fort Des Moines at the junction of the Raccoon with the Des Moines river, but only to what is now Agency City, then the Indian Agency, some six miles south and east of the city of Ottumwa, where, in a most lovely spot, General Street, United States agent of the tribe, had erected his quarters, and surrounding his home were the lodges of Keokuk and the other chiefs and braves of the aboriginal tribes.

And this reminds me of an anecdote which created a good deal of laughter from time to time in the Second Territorial Council when an honorable member (Mr. Hawkins) whenever speaking of the aborigines (which word he used instead of Indians) would always pronounce it *abergoines* and no effort of his fellow members could educate him into a better pronunciation.

Some most amusing incidents took place on our journey and occurred while we were engaged in the important work of a grand visitation to the wards of the Nation by the representative of the Great Father, for the Governor was by law made the "superintendent of Indian affairs."

FIRST LAND SALE.

The first land sale at Burlington, in November, 1838, constituted an epoch, the fourth, in the history of Iowa. It was an occasion of extraordinary interest to two classes of people, the settlers or squatters upon the lands, and the speculators or land grabbers who were ever ready to take advantage of the poverty of the settler and either lend him money at fifty per cent or buy his home from under him.

The citizens of Iowa to-day in their comfortable homes (even though many be mortgaged as has been charged) know nothing and can realize less of the excitement and interest of the pioneers of that early period. Men who had braved the experiences incident to frontier life to secure their homes, found the lands brought into market and about to be exposed to public sale without the means to pay for them. Noted capitalists had come from Albany, New York (Dr. Benedict), Springfield, Illinois (Dr. Barrett), and Columbus, Ohio (Lyne Sterling), who at that sale lent more than one hundred thousand dollars to settlers at the rate of fifty per cent. The Mississippi was full of floating ice, and we remember standing upon the bank when one of these capitalists was crossing in a small boat, loaded down to the water's edge with silver coin which was soon to go into Uncle Sam's coffers in exchange for lands which have since become fruitful in the abundant harvests of later years, the reward of honest toil.

The squatters or settlers from every acre exposed to sale attended this land sale in force. They came, we remember, to Burlington by boat, by wagon, on horseback and on foot, any way indeed to get there and be present at the opening of the sale. They were banded together like a band of brothers, prepared to stand by each other, as they did, to the last. It was a dangerous undertaking for any land-grabber to attempt to bid against any of the hardy honest squatters, and yet we remember one of the bold speculators, a citizen of Iowa, ventured upon the hazard, when no sooner did he overbid the bidder appointed, as each township had one for its settlers, than he was "knocked down and dragged out" and but for the timely interference of those interested in the preservation of public order his life would have been the forfeit. His bid, by his order, was cancelled, his life preserved, and he ushered away, when no further disturbance occurred.

There is preserved in the Historical Society at Iowa City one of the township records of that early day which explains the *modus operandi* by which all contesting claims were adjudicated by arbitration at home, so that from the list of claimants then made out, one man of the number was selected to buy in all the lands. But a small portion of the Territory had been surveyed and not all of that brought into market.

At the first land sale General Van Antwerp, one of the old Knickerbockers of New York, a chivalrous man, educated at West Point, and who was known among the rough pioneers as "the man with the boiled shirt and the starched collar," was the Receiver of Public Monies. He was full of grit, always true to, but never one of the masses, an aristocrat in feeling, he nevertheless was strongly opposed to the wealthy few who came to impose upon the poverty of the many.

The Register of the Land Office at this period was General A. C. Dodge, his chief clerk being Bernhart Henn, who afterwards succeeded him in office and was later elected to Congress from the State of Iowa. General Dodge, of whose official career and personal worth, the public are well advised, held the office but a short time, when he was elected second Territorial delegate to Congress. It was, however, during the brief period of the land sales, when he came so directly and personally in contact with the great body of the people that he laid the foundation of his great personal popularity with the masses whose good will he held with unabated interest to the hour of his death.

The citizens of to-day have reason to bless the old settlers of that period who saved their homes to the inheritance of future years. No such land epoch has ever occurred since, either in Iowa or in the regions opened up to settlement in the Territories further west. It was then and there that the honest Pioneers upon the virgin soil first met *en masse* with a common interest, made a common acquaintance and opened up an era of better feeling which led to rejoicings upon every returning anniversary of the Old Settlers' Associations, which came into being at a later day in all of the counties of that period.

FIRST LEGISLATURE.

The first Legislature of the Territory of Iowa convened at Burlington on the 12th day of November, 1838. It was composed of thirteen members of the Council and twenty-six of the House.

Of these members, so far as we remember, only three had any legislative experience, Arthur Inghram, Councilman, and Thomas Blair, Representative, from Des Moines County, had been members of the House of Representatives of Wisconsin Territory at its last session (1837); Hardin Nowlin, Representative from Dubuque County, had been a member of the Wisconsin Territorial Council the same year. Both branches, therefore, labored under great disabilities for the want of having experienced members to direct the business of the session. They labored also under other difficulties and embarrassments.

The winter of 1838 set in at an unusually early period, and the stationery which I had purchased in the east, as agent for Secretary Conway, for the use of the Legislature had been blockaded by the ice at St. Louis, and in a small place like Burlington proper supplies could not be had, wherefore it became necessary to go to St. Louis, and at the instance of the Governor and Secretary I hired teams at Burlington under the direction of Moses W. Robinson (who afterwards became prominent in Agricultural affairs in the State, a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1857, and died at Des Moines in 1882 while the surviving members of that Convention were celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary), and succeeded in getting the supplies before the close of the session.

All the towns on the Mississippi river from St. Louis to the most northern settlement were cut short of their winter supplies and had, like ourselves, to send to St. Louis for the necessaries of life even, and I remember that the road from Alton to St. Louis was lined on either side with teams waiting for the river to freeze over, to the end that they might cross.

That session was held in the old Zion church, a brick edifice recently erected, which had been put in special order for the use of the members, the House occupying the upper room and the Council the basement of the building.

William H. Wallace, a young lawyer of Mt. Pleasant, was the Speaker of the House. He was genial in his intercourse with the people, popular in his manners and possessed of great magnetic powers which won the admiration and esteem of his followers who always adhered to his fortunes. He also possessed a large share of the spirit of adventure common to the pioneers of that period. Defeated later in his aspirations for a seat in the National Congress, he removed to Washington Territory in 1853 and in 1861 was appointed Territorial Governor and while serving as such was elected delegate to Congress, consummating the hopes of his ambition in this direction. Soon after he was appointed Governor of Idaho Territory, and in a short time was also there elected a delegate to Congress. Serving one term he returned to Washington Territory where he resided until his death in 1879.

The president of the Council was Captain, afterward General, Jesse B. Browne. With one exception he was the tallest man in Burlington during the session and was called, "the tall cedar of Lebanon." His rival in height was the minister of the Methodist church who had come hither from Little Rock, Arkansas, where he had been engaged in the practice of law. Being somewhat of a wag he had a sign painted and fastened over the door of his office which read:

" A. M. Scott, Attorney at Law,
The tallest man in Arkansasaw."

One summer when the river was very low he had succeeded in wading the stream, when upon the following morning the sign was observed to have been changed and to read:

“ A. M. Scott, Attorney at Law,
The man who waded the Arkansaw.”

Both of these persons were men of mark in their day. Captain Browne had resigned from the Regular Army, having been one of the Captains under General Sumner, then Colonel in command of the U. S. Fort at Montrose, Iowa. He was a very popular man, and but for strong drink, the bane of many a man of promise of that early day, would have become one of the most useful citizens who ever served Iowa in a legislative capacity. He continued to serve his constituents through several succeeding legislatures, and upon one occasion I remember, in the fall of 1840, when going to the bar room of the hotel (National) where the mail matter of the members boarding there was delivered, to get my weekly mail, I found the room filled with patrons of the bar, the tallest man in the crowd being Captain Browne, who observing me said, “Gentlemen, I move that our young friend, Mr. Parvin, have the honor of treating this crowd.” And immediately added, “All in favor of the motion say, Aye.” It is needless to say that a universal “Aye” went up from the crowd.

Though I had never treated a company before, or since, to spirituous liquors, I at once took in the situation and directed the bar keeper to treat Captain Browne and his friends and hand me the bill the next morning. Some one, or more in the crowd, at once insisted that I should join in the drink, which I peremptorily refused, when Captain Browne coming to my rescue, said:

“Gentlemen, you all know that Mr. Parvin does not drink, but he is a gentleman, and lets us drink at his expense. You will now form lines and we will escort him to his lodgings,” which they did with the honors of the occasion, giving me three cheers, as they retired from the entrance to my room, and the next morning I had \$15.00 to pay at the bar. I might entertain this audience the entire evening in relating anecdotes of “Captain Browne and his friends” of that early period, but time is too short and the subject matter in hand too great.

While the majority of both Houses were Democratic in faith, the presiding officers of both Houses were Whigs. Party lines had not then been drawn, and the members of the first Legislature had largely been elected upon the County seat question.

In view, however, of the coming presidential contest of 1840 (though Iowa had no vote therein), party lines were strictly drawn at the second election (1839), and henceforth members of every succeeding Legislature were elected in accordance with the party preference of their constituents.

The two leading questions coming before the Legislature, were the unsettled boundary question between Missouri and Iowa, and the location of the future Capital of the Territory. The Library which I had purchased in Baltimore for the Territory had been left in St. Louis when bringing the stationery up for the use of the Legislature, and the members labored under great difficulties for the want of the statutes of the several States to guide them in their legislation. Several of the members of that Legislature rose

later to distinction and filled honorable positions in the State and National Government.

James W. Grimes, whose biography has been well written and presented to the public by Rev. Dr. Salter, of Burlington, was a young but leading member of the House, a native of New Hampshire, and graduated from Dartmouth College. He later became the third Governor of the State of Iowa in 1854 and a Senator in Congress in 1858, and in my humble judgment was the most distinguished citizen Iowa has produced, and a man of more intellectual ability than any officer who ever served the State. He was my friend from our first acquaintance, and when assailed with calumny by his own party for the vote he cast during the impeachment trial of President Johnson, I had the opportunity of publicly defending him before the students and citizens of Iowa City, and for which I received his warmest thanks.

Cyrus Jacobs, another Representative from Des Moines, was appointed United States District Attorney for Iowa, but died soon after.

Laurel Summers, deceased since our last meeting, of Scott County, and Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, still living, of Van Buren County, were both later appointed United States Marshals for the State of Iowa.

S. Clinton Hastings, a native of New York, a member of the House from Muscatine, and who continued a member of the Territorial Legislature in one or the other House during Territorial days, was elected one of the first two Congressmen from the State at large upon its admission into the Union (1846), and later became the second Chief Justice of the State (1848) and still later held the same office, as also that of Attorney General for the State of California, to which he had removed and where he still continues to reside.

Chauncey Swan, Representative from Dubuque, and Robert Ralston, Councilman from Des Moines County, were two of the Commissioners to locate the Capitol and the former to superintend its construction at Iowa City. That building is now the Stone or Central Hall of the State University of Iowa.

A. B. Porter rose to distinction and became Major in the military service during the late war. He was from Mt. Pleasant, Henry county.

Beside these there were Hawkins Taylor, a Representative from Lee County, a prominent member of this Association, who has written much of the early history of Iowa, and who was with us upon a former occasion of our meeting. At an advanced age he still continues to labor and holds a Government position at Washington.

A member of some note, for the amusement he created, was Robert G. Roberts, of Cedar County. He was never in his seat, but roaming about the House from desk to desk, always in a good humor with himself and fellow members, and whenever the yeas and nays were called would rise and say: "Mr. Speaker, if Cedar is in that 'ere bill I vote yea, if not, no." This became too common, even for a joke, so the members resolved to turn the tables upon him, when they, in a mockish way, passed a bill to deprive Cedar County of a Representative in the House. As usual, the member from Cedar County rose, and upon being assured that "Cedar was in *that* bill," voted aye. The next morning he discovered the nature and character of the bill, which he supposed was genuine, and then he begged like a whipped spaniel to have his vote changed, for he said that it would be his eternal ruin when he went home to his constituents to find that they had been attached to

another County and so lost the right of representation in the Legislature. As it was only a fiction it served its purpose and ended there.

Colonel Thomas Cox, another prominent member, led the citizens when, in later years in Jackson County, they rose *en masse* against the gang of gamblers and counterfeiterers who were plying their trade to the detriment of the good people and the advancing civilization of the State. He was an engineer and engaged with John Frierson, a member from Muscatine County, in locating and surveying the new Capital, Iowa City, upon the Iowa river. His vote was the turning point in the location of the Capitol at Iowa City, and the Territory and State became indebted to him by whose vote the location was determined.

Among the most active and useful of the members of that session were two whom I have named, Messrs. Summers and Bailey, who however, were rewarded, more for their political than for their civil services in the office to which they were later appointed by the President. As citizens in their several localities most of the members became prominent and noted for their services to their Counties and the Territory.

The Clerk of the House was Joseph T. Fales, of Dubuque, who became the first Auditor of the State and later Chief Clerk in the Patent Office when Judge Mason, of Iowa, became Commissioner of Patents. From the dawn of the Territorial Government to the close of his long life he was in service, and always made himself useful in some capacity.

Of the members of the House there are only three survivors, one, Dr. Bailey, still resides where he has lived for more than half a century, at Vernon, Iowa; Judge Hastings in California, and Hawkins Taylor in Washington.

Beside the preferment named as shown to the members of this first General Assembly, two, Hempstead and Hepner, of the Council, and three, Bailey, Delashmut and Toole, of the House, became members of the first Constitutional Convention of 1844. One only, Col. Coop, of the House, from Jefferson County, was a member of the second Constitutional Convention under which the Territory was admitted into the Union as a State, 1846; and one other member, Colonel Patterson, of Lee county, was a member of the third and last Constitutional Convention of 1857.

Some little may be learned of the complexion of that Legislature from a statement of the professions and occupations of its members. These I give wholly from personal recollection, the data which I made at the time not now being accessible.

Of the thirty-nine members the larger number, to-wit, twelve, were farmers, nine lawyers, and nine merchants—or store keepers as they were called at that day—three were miners and from Dubuque and contiguous Counties, two doctors, one in each House to look after the health of the members, two mechanics, and two surveyors.

Many remained to serve their fellow citizens in succeeding years while a few removed farther west and helped to organize other Territories and build up other States.

In the Council the most useful member was Stephen Hempstead, a prominent lawyer from Dubuque, who became the second Governor of the State of Iowa, and later (1851) one of the codifying Commissioners of its laws.

Robert Ralston, of the Council, was one of the three Capital Commissioners, one being taken from each House while the third, John Ronalds, was taken from among the citizens and from Louisa county.

General Warner Lewis, of Dubuque, was also a prominent member of the Council and later appointed Surveyor-General of the Territory by the President.

None of the members of the Council survive. Most of them lived and died upon the soil of the Territory they helped to create.

This Legislature became involved in an unpleasant controversy with the Governor and the Secretary of the Territory, the latter being William B. Conway, who had edited a democratic paper in Pittsburg, was a man of no experience in public life outside of the editorial office, and illy fitted for the post to which he had been assigned. He had, however, the good sense to take the advice of his friends, and at an early period made peace with the Legislature, whose ire he had aroused by a humorous communication to the Council, and so left the Governor to fight his battles, not only alone, but with Conway his secretary, added to his opponents. The first, and indeed the principal bone of contention, was in regard to the expenditure of the public funds, the Governor holding to the doctrine, which he publicly expressed, that the Legislature should use and appropriate the stipend set apart by Congress for Legislative expenses as Trustees of the National Government.

A majority of the members, however, held and as boldly proclaimed the doctrine that "Uncle Sam was a cow and they should milk her freely," and so draw from the public Treasury all the money they could get, and so liberally did they draw thereon that they largely exceeded the amount appropriated and many had to go home upon borrowed funds; the Secretary, even, having to borrow money to meet the legislative expenses and trust to the liberality of a future Congress to repay the same.

The Governor having had large legislative experience in Ohio, where the people, and not Congress, footed the bills, and where the Legislature practiced a greater system of economy, wisely sought to impress more economical ideas upon the minds of the Iowa Legislators and thus provoked a contest which led to much ill will, if not obstruction of the public business.

Economy has been a subject preached at every election and practiced by few Legislatures, elected even upon such a platform.

It is easier for legislative bodies (as for individuals) to spend money than to earn it, and so long as they can be removed from those who have to pay the bills they will continue such practices.

At that session Governor Lucas, following the custom of our first Presidents, read his first Message to each branch of the Legislature.

WHO MADE IOWA?

Two or more important papers have been issued within the past two years by distinguished citizens of Iowa, enumerating and descriptive of "The Men Who Made Iowa." The writers of these papers are noted more for the omissions than for the sins of commission they published, the principal one of which is, the *including* of names of men who had little or nothing to do with "the making of Iowa," but found it already made, and well made to order, when they became citizens of the State.

Of all parasites the mistletoe is one of the most beautiful and renowned. It attaches itself to the highest branches of the live oak of the south, and when the leaves of Autumn have fallen, by its conspicuous greenness, attracts the attention of the passer-by. It, however, draws all of its vitality from the giant oak, upon which it lives, while it is useless in the construction of the navies of the world, or even for the woodman's ax.

So, some men, instead of helping to make the State and give to it the character it has, derive all, or much, at least, of their notoriety from their connection with it in the later periods of its history. I would not, under any circumstances, detract one iota from the merits of such men, but I propose to vindicate the majesty of the truth and speak a word in behalf of some few, at least, of those not mentioned by the writers spoken of, who, in my humble judgment, lent not only a helping hand, but contributed most largely, in their several spheres, to the making of Iowa what it is to-day, one of the greatest States of the Union.

The first in point of time is *Robert Lucas*, first Governor of the Territory, a native of Virginia, advanced in years and ripe with experience. For two decades President of the Ohio State Senate, twice Governor of the Buckeye State, he came to Iowa, its Chief Magistrate, not only clothed with authority, but with the gathered wisdom of experience and of age. Few, no doubt, even of the professed historians of to-day ever saw, much less read, his first Message, in which the key-note to the advancing progress of the Territory and State is foreshadowed.

With prophetic vision he declared "that the eyes of the people of the United States were upon the pioneers engaged in its first legislation."

They had an interest in the new Territory and felt an anxious solicitude for its prosperity and hence they regarded as of immense importance the laying of good foundations for the Government of the Territory, soon in his view, "to become one of the States of the Union." Prominent among his recommendations, most or all of which were later incorporated into law, in accordance with his views, and which have been the rule of action ever since, I may mention that of "township organization," the corner stone of the peoples' Government both in the administration of its civil and criminal affairs and especially in regard to "the system of public education" upon which he urged the Legislature to enter.

"Religion, Morality and Knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education," he said, "should be encouraged and provided for, as Congress in the ordinance of 1787 had wisely directed."

He also urged the compilation of "a Code of laws," especially a Criminal Code, and so declaimed in severe terms against the practices of that early period, and not by any means gone into disuse in later years, of "gambling and intemperance" which he considered the fountains from which almost every other crime proceeded. He suggested and urged that a committee of three, learned in the law and of experience and weight of character, be appointed to prepare a complete Code during the recess of the Legislature.

He also suggested that provision be made for the "location of the Territorial Capital," and that Commissioners to that end be selected by the Legislature, and last, but not least, he became the founder of our growing "State Library," and I recall with pleasure that I was by him appointed the first

Librarian, and made the purchase, with the \$5,000 appropriated by Congress for the purpose, of the books constituting that Library.

Few Executives live to see so many of their recommendations, all wise and good in themselves, carried into execution by the legislative authorities of the State. More than this, he became one of the "makers of Iowa" in that through his efforts more than any other did Iowa secure the confirmation of her title to the strip bordering upon her southern boundary, to which claim had been set up by the great State of Missouri. Iowa, a weak and humble Territory, the ward of Congress, would have lost that most valuable strip of land but for the timely and efficient efforts of her first Territorial Executive.

Next to Governor Lucas we would present the name of Honorable *Charles Mason*, who became the first, and continued Chief Justice of the Territorial Courts from the organization of the Territory, in 1838, to its admission into the Union in the winter of 1846. He was a native of New York; had graduated at the head of his class from the Military Academy at West Point, having as fellow-members the no less distinguished persons than the late General Lee, Joe Johnston and President Davis, of the Confederate States. He was learned in the law, a model jurist, and rendered most essential and efficient service, not only to the Territory, but the State, in that he, in 1851, became one and the Chief of the three codifying Commissioners who reported the famous "Code of 1851," which continued until 1860, when it was somewhat revised, the Code of Laws under and by which the State was governed. His master mind is written upon every page of the early laws and reports of Iowa.

In connection with the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Department of the Territorial Government, an actor and a very prominent one in its Legislative history should not be overlooked or omitted.

Prominent, if not the most prominent of all the "Law-Makers" of those Territorial days was *Stephen Hempstead*, who, later (1850), became the second Governor of Iowa. He was a native of Connecticut; a resident of Galena at the breaking out of the Black-Hawk war, in which he served as an officer of an Artillery Company. After the defeat of the Chieftain, August 2, 1832, which resulted in the cession of a part of the Indian lands in Iowa, he removed to, and located in Dubuque, and like Judge Mason, was a citizen and practicing attorney in the "Iowa District" when the Territory was organized. He was elected to the first and succeeding Territorial Councils and presided over one of them.

He, with Judge Woodward, later of the State Supreme Court, was associated with Judge Mason in the preparation of the "Code of 1851," and in that capacity rendered efficient service. The Code then enacted became, and has since continued, the *basis* of the subsequent Codes of Iowa. He was largely influential in much of the most important legislation of the Territorial period, and has left the impress of his genius and superior knowledge upon the statute books through many years.

As all good Government is based upon the education and morality of its citizens, we are pleased to refer to two gentlemen most prominent then, and through all the period of their lives.

The man who, of all others, has had the most to do with the founding and building up of the educational system of our free schools in Iowa was

Thomas H. Benton, Jr., one of the earliest and for many years Superintendent of Public Schools in the State. He was an early educator himself, taught a Classical Academy in the later thirties in the city of Dubuque, where we first met him. Later he became conspicuous as a Legislator; devoted his attention more particularly to the subject of public schools, and no man deserves that his name should be held in more grateful memory by children and parents than does *Thomas H. Benton, Jr.*

Another is "Father Turner," as he later became known, and whose history has been presented to the public in a most valuable and readable form, entitled "*Asa Turner and his Times*," by President Magoun, of Iowa College. No minister of his day in Iowa exerted so wide an influence in behalf of churches, Sabbath-schools, public and higher schools of education than he, and his influence was felt for good by legislators, judges and our chief magistrates, as well as in the more familiar walks of home life, and in all these departments he well fulfilled the highest and noblest mission of men on earth, which is to promote the moral and social well being of all the people; and no more fitting example than "Father Turner" could be selected to illustrate the influence, widespread then and now, of the pulpit, the churches, and Christian teachers of the land.

While commerce, manufactures and mechanical arts constitute an essential portion of every State life, "Iowa is" and must remain pre-eminently "an agricultural State," and as a practical farmer and an agriculturist in its highest sense, no one of the many thousands whose names have been before the public stands forth so pre-eminently as the late Honorable C. F., familiarly known as "Father" Clarkson. He proclaimed the right and dignity of labor and of the working man, in his teachings and by his example ennobling labor, for by his labors in the field and at the desk as a worker in behalf of his fellow men he made his mark and left the impress of his mind and his hand more deeply than any other in the agricultural districts of the State.

The *Press* has always been an agent in every community and in selecting a member as a representative man of the early Press of Iowa, I at once turn to *James G. Edwards*, the founder and for many years the editor of the *Burlington Hawkeye*, in its earlier days the leading paper of the Whig party of the Territory and State, and since, one of the recognized leaders not only in the Republican party but among the chief papers of the State. He was both a practical and theoretical printer, a Christian gentleman, whose influence was ever exerted in the cause of morality and good order, and he was as conspicuous in the affairs of his church (Congregational) as in politics.

Having spoken of two of the chief factors of that early period, neither of which, however, was so prominent then as they became in later periods, yet they were both powers for good in promoting the general welfare of the people. They were the Press and the Pulpit, which leads me briefly to mention the remaining of the illustrious trio of P's, the *Petticoat*, an unknown factor then in the solution of the great problems of the State and of society, but destined in later years to predominate, if possible, in that the petticoat has not only entered into the pulpit and the press, but our schools of medicine and of law, as well as the halls of learning, and while excluded from the halls of legislation its influence in all other walks of life is seen and felt throughout the land.

A good woman of those early days once said to me when I had congratulated her on coming (as she did in advance of myself) to the beautiful land of Iowa, that "Iowa was indeed a beautiful land, beautiful for men and horses, but not by any means so beautiful and goodly a land for women and oxen." The good woman did not live to see the ushering in of the time when the oxen should vacate the land and traverse the unknown regions to the west, bearing thither to distant Washington, Oregon and California many of the pioneer settlers of Iowa, and to see her own sex elevated to positions of honor and influence in the land.

I would do injustice to my theme did I not lend a willing and loving testimony to the worth of the women of those early days. Many a time have I shared their hospitality in their humble cabins throughout the Territory, always met with a hearty welcome, where the latch-string was ever out to the stranger traveling that way. Often have I seen the mother and the motherless woman watching at the bedside of the lonely stranger and new comer, when stricken with the fever so prevalent in those early days, and ministering to his comfort as only ministering "angels with their wings cut away" could lend relief when most needed.

Often, too, have I heard their voices raised in "songs of praise" in the improvised places of worship when there were no "Meeting Houses" in the District or even throughout the county. 'Mid the toils and trials and discomforts of frontier life they were ever ready to share with their husbands, fathers and brothers in their labors to make for them homes upon our prairies and along the streams where clustered the narrow strips of woodland which rendered our State a land of beauty, and to become in future years a joy forever to those who had made their homes upon its soil. From among the many pioneer women whom I knew in those early days I may mention in addition to the one already named, Mrs. Lockwood Fales, the daughter of our first Governor and the wife of the first Chief Justice of our State, and who through all the Territorial period was an Associate Justice of the highest Court; the Misses Lucas and Mrs. Williams, Christian women, noble representatives of their sex, whose lives of self-sacrifice and loving labors lent encouragement and aid to the sterner sex in the work to which they had devoted their lives.

Why, then, in the name of Truth, should the names we have named and others be omitted, and much more why some others less deserving be substituted by those pretending to write of the men most prominent in the "making of Iowa?"

We are not yet done. One other name, not known to public fame in the field of his greatest usefulness, is deserving of the greatest honors, and no man more than he deserves to be commemorated in our history, or to have a public monument erected to his memory.

I refer to the late Lieutenant-Governor of Iowa, Enoch W. Eastman, the author of Iowa's famous motto, "Iowa—the affections of her people, like the rivers of her borders, flow to an inseparable union." And so great was his love for Iowa that he would not see her dismembered and shorn of her chief beauty. It may not be, and doubtless is not, known to a majority even of the pioneers of this Law-Makers' Association that the people of the State of Iowa are indebted more to Enoch W. Eastman for her present boundaries than to any other man, living or dead. When the constitution of 1844, pre-

scribing substantially the same boundaries as now, was adopted by the Convention and sent to Congress for ratification before being submitted to the people for their approval, Congress struck out the boundary and in lieu of that adopted by the Convention, and since established, provided that the western boundary should be a line drawn from the intersection of the little White Earth river with the Minnesota river south, passing about thirty miles west of the Racoon Forks or the present city of Des Moines to the Missouri line, thus cutting us off from the western half of the State, known in later years as the "Missouri Slope," and directed that the boundaries as prescribed by to be submitted to the people.

All the office holders and office seekers were anxious for the adoption of the Constitution to the end that they might secure the preferment they desired. Mr. Eastman, then a young lawyer recently arrived in Burlington from New Hampshire, where he was born in 1810, united with the late Captain Mills, who lost his life during the Mexican War and also a prominent attorney of the same place, to defeat that measure before the people. They undertook to stump the Territory but finding the job too large a one they invited myself to relieve them in the Second Judicial District of the Territory, which I did, taking as a text of my discourses before the people the famous distich of Bishop Berkley, "Westward the star of Empire takes her way," and from that I proceeded to urge the people to insist that inasmuch as emigration followed the parallel lines of latitude we should insist upon our State extending to the Missouri river and that the only way to accomplish this would be the rejection of the boundaries prescribed by Congress.

Our efforts in the first and second Districts were successful and the Constitution was defeated by some four hundred votes, and but for the efforts of Mr. Eastman in organizing that effort and combination against its adoption the Congressional boundaries would have been imposed upon our people and there would be two States where now there is but one—Iowa.

I am compelled, in the presentation of this historical fact, to allude to my own efforts, because, being the only survivor of the three, and there being none left of the early pioneers who were conspicuously witness to those efforts, without which I could not do justice to the memory of one to whom the people are so greatly indebted.

And yet, not one of all these names has received the credit or any portion thereof, their due from the historians of to-day, whose laudation has been so liberally expended in the presentation of other names, some of whom well merited all the praise bestowed upon them, and others, while deserving men, have *no place* among the pioneers who contributed so largely to "the making of Iowa" as it is to-day, and as it will remain when we shall cease to be actors upon the stage, and when our memories, too, have faded from the public eye.

There are other names deserving of a place here but we cannot include all, so close this portion of our theme.

Iowa was not made in a day. It did not spring into being full-fledged for life's destiny like Minerva from the brain of Jupiter. Her wisdom was the growth of years and the fruits of the labors of many who toiled in her harvest fields. Much less was it made in Congress, nor yet upon the battle field. It was made upon its home soil and by home-spun men. Still, her citizens have won honorable mention and deserved fame in the noble deeds done

and valiant record made in the National Halls and upon many a bloody field where victory was won by the sacrifice of noble lives, offerings upon their country's altar.

These men, who builded wiser than they knew, are all dead, and but few of their co-laborers left to tell the tale of their deeds; some earlier and some later have crossed the dark river to the unseen shore. The builder dies, but the temple of our grand State, which they builded upon the virgin soil of fair and "beautiful Iowa," once the hunting ground of Black-Hawk, Keokuk and Appanoose, Poweshiek, Wapello and their brave warriors, still goes up and generations in the future will come to succeed us, rise up and call them blessed, and share in the rich inheritance of the fathers who labored not in vain nor spent their strength for naught, but to prepare the way for earth's teeming riches to go to far off lands, to feed the hungry, and the richer and more beautiful harvest at home of virtue, of educated manhood to bless the State and the Nation.

While we contemplate these things we are reminded that there yet remains a connecting link between the past and present. One above all others well deserves the name of soldiers' friend; one whose victories of peace made those of war a noble record; one whose praise is upon every tongue, as he who so nobly helped to turn aside the fratricidal war and save the Nation, with the dome of its capitol pointing skyward to welcome the morning sun of peace on earth, good will to men. Need I tell this Pioneer Law-Makers Association that he as one of the leaders of the Seventh General Assembly (1858) made the way clear for the higher honor of becoming Iowa's "War Governor," Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa City.

The committee appointed to wait upon the House of Representatives and accept its invitation submitted their report. They also reported that they had accepted a similar invitation extended by the Senate. The report was approved and adopted.

By motion of Governor B. F. Gue, Hon. H. W. Lathrop, of Iowa City, was made an honorary member of the Association.

Adjournment was here had until 2:30 P. M.

At 2:30 P. M., the Association re-assembled in the Senate Chamber:

SENATOR BOLTER: *Mr. President*—I have the honor to announce the presence of the honorable body of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa.

Gentlemen—To me has been assigned the honor, on behalf of the Senate, of extending to you who have favored us with your presence this afternoon, a kindly greeting. I am entirely unprepared to do more than extend the warmest possible welcome that can be given from the present members of the Senate, or the present members of the General Assembly, to you, gentlemen, who have previously occupied these places and have previously borne their responsibilities. We gladly greet you, and hope that your stay with us will be both pleasant to you and profitable to us.

HON. GEORGE G. WRIGHT: *Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Assembly:* (Cries come "forward.")

JUDGE WRIGHT: No, Mr. President, I am not to make a speech. I am the autocrat of this body and have the power to call out these boys that are around me to make the speeches.

On behalf of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa—which not only includes those prior to 1872, who were connected with the House and Senate, but also those who occupied State offices prior to that time—on behalf of those I extend to you for them the most cordial greeting. You see among the gentlemen before you some very aged men. There are such persons present as General Jones, Barlow Granger, Colonel Pusey and myself, who are among the young men of the Association, but all come to you from a former generation, and as such I introduce them as members of our Association, and will say to you, gentlemen of the Senate, that I announced the rule before we came here that I was to be the autocrat and would not make a speech, as I had the absolute power to call upon whomsoever I chose; and I take it for granted that you, Mr. President, will do the same thing with the young men before you on the other side of the chamber. I take it for granted that you have some persons who can talk if occasion demands. Before I introduce to you the first gentleman, I trust I may be pardoned for referring to an incident in the politics of the State many years ago. Among our prominent politicians were Grimes and Kirkwood, who afterwards became our Governors and United States Senators. One year they canvassed the State together. At Gutenberg, in Clayton County, Grimes spoke first with unusual ability, making an elaborate and most able speech. He consumed so much of the time that when he closed Kirkwood spoke very briefly, merely telling a few stories to wake up the boys. When the meeting closed an enthusiastic German invited the speakers to go to his house and partake of some cakes and wine. The invitation was accepted, to the delight of the good-humored old Teuton. While they were enjoying his hospitality, inspired no doubt by the wine, the host slapped Governor Kirkwood on the shoulder, exclaiming: "You should go vid Meester Grimes all de dimes." This exclamation he repeated twice or thrice, when Kirkwood asked — "Why?" "Oh! Meester Grimes he dalks de sense, and you foolish de boys and de girls." I will now introduce to you the bright and glorious—because he is not bright and glorious—Ed. Campbell, who will "foolish the boys, if not the girls."

Mr. Campbell spoke as follows:

Mr. President—In military times the general in charge of the army moving to the front generally surrounds himself with subordinate officers for advice, and the uniform rule is to call upon the youngest man in the crowd first. I suppose that is why Judge Wright, having somewhat of a military education, calls us boys. It seems that I am one of the four boys that have just graduated together, with my friend, Judge Hilton, and two others, and they want to put the young men first. This is, doubtless, in order that the old men may have the benefit of the wisdom of the young. I do not propose to say the good things that I might say, because thirty or forty years hence when such men as Judge Nourse, Frank Campbell and others, have grown old I may be an old fellow myself. You know old men have a habit of get-

ting things by the contrary, so, when you heard Judge Wright call me bright and glorious you knew it was because I was not bright and glorious.

We come here as the beardless boys of the Fourteenth General Assembly. Hilton and the Judge and I have ever since remained beardless men, but these men—I hope that Gabriel won't blow his horn, for if he does he will fail to catch one of them if he gives a "toot" now. I did not hear the "toot," but I kept in the cellar.

I do not propose to say anything that the old officers can take advantage of, as I stated before. Judge Wright wanted to take out all of the wisdom I had and he knew that would not take long, but it would be more than he had for a long time. I do not propose to give you anything until these old fellows die and the young ones grow up.

JUDGE WRIGHT: *Mr. President*—I must confess that I have been disappointed. Mr. Campbell told me before we started over that he wanted to make the first speech because he had the best kind of an unprepared speech on hand, and was afraid somebody would get ahead of him and say it before he did. I now call upon one of the earliest pioneers of our State, Hon. Reuben Noble, of Clayton County, who was Speaker of our House of Representatives in 1854.

MR. NOBLE: *Mr. President*—In behalf of the old Law-Makers' Association I also tender, in addition to the thanks already tendered by Judge Wright, the earnest thanks of the members of our organization for the consideration manifested by the General Assembly of Iowa while here. I did not suppose that any one would look for a speech from me. There are those who, as Judge Wright says, are much younger than I, who are better fitted, and have taken upon themselves the pleasant duty of addressing this branch of the General Assembly. I will say, however, Mr. President, that it is expected usually upon occasions like this that we old men will, to a certain extent, extol our patriotism, our virtue and integrity and honesty in days long ago, and that we would apparently seek to institute a comparison favorable to ourselves. Now, I have just this to say: That if I should attempt to institute any comparison of these characteristics of the old Legislature as far back as the Fifth General Assembly, over which I had the honor to preside two sessions as Speaker of the House, I will say, that if I should attempt such a thing, I would expect that you would not believe one word I would say. I never raised a boy that I did not believe was as good a boy as I was when I was a boy, and I never associated with a body of men of the same character as this that I was familiar with in the long, long ago, but I find that the comparison is certainly reasonably favorable to the present. I may say, though, for the purpose of uttering a thought that I feel a deep interest in, and I think it will interest all people of Iowa at this time. I am glad to have an opportunity for a single moment to express the thought. You are aware that next year, if no calamity happens to our beloved State, that at least one million of our people will leave Iowa for the greatest fair of the world, and they will visit that fair for probably the last time, to about three-fourths of those people at any rate. I say one million of our people, for I believe one-half of Iowa will visit Chicago some time next year. I wish to say, that I hope everybody in the State of Iowa could hear what I said—that the great question for the Iowa people in this matter is to provide for the personal comfort and safety of Iowa's women and children as well as men

at that great World's Fair. The great interests of the country will take care of themselves ; the stock will take care of itself, and the productions of the country will take care of themselves ; but when you come to place a million of people in a city that has grown so fast that it has grown past the point of safety for its own people—when you come to contemplate that one million of the people of Iowa will visit that city next year, we have not done our duty unless we have fully provided as far as possible for the personal safety and comfort of all our people. I am just now from that city, and while I said awhile ago it has outgrown itself, it has grown to that point beyond which it is impossible now to take care of its own people. Next year millions will be there. I wish to express the hope that the present Legislature of Iowa will not adjourn until they have made provision for that personal comfort and safety of our people. At the present time those of our people that are in Chicago are taking care of themselves, but I do not know how they will get along when the throng gets there. Chicago is only a little ways from Iowa. We are so close by that we should take care of our own people and not expect them to. But in order to do that successfully it will involve some expense and thorough organization over the State. It would not require much expense. A large, capacious building, but a cheap one, should be erected, and in that should be at least twenty to fifty of our best men and women to take care of the others when they come there. Our people should go there with their friends and register. This may be outside of our present business of the old Law-Makers, but it is one that presses so heavily on my mind that I cannot forego the duty of making this digression upon an occasion of this kind.

JUDGE WRIGHT: I am sure that the gentlemen on this side of the chamber will be pleased to hear from some of the distinguished Senators.

Senator Bolter spoke as follows:

Mr. President, and Early Law-Makers of Iowa—The Senate warmly welcomes you to these marble halls of your building and thanks you for the inspiration given and for the suggestions you have made. We feel under obligations to counsel with those who have enacted such legislation as was necessary to make this capitol one of the finest buildings in the world. To you has fallen the distinguished honor of laying broad and deep the foundations upon which these walls arise. We were not advised of your coming in time to make such arrangements as we would gladly have done had we had time, but, representatives of the Pioneer Law-Makers, I think I express the wish of every one who to-day occupies seats simply as one of your audience, when I say that whatever counsel you may be prepared to give, whatever suggestions you may be prepared to make, will be kindly received and carefully considered by this and the other house of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly. May your organization of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa be as imperishable as the fundamental principles of State government by you established in the early times, and may your memory be as imperishable as the works that you have performed in the early days of Iowa—and may God bless you all. And trusting that you may prosper, and may call upon us again and call upon us often, feeling that you will be received with welcome, I bid you good-bye and God-speed.

SENATOR SHIELDS: *Mr. President*—There are many of the early Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa with us to-day. Among others I see my old friend, Barlow Granger. And another of the Pioneer Law-Makers is that old gentleman who came to Wisconsin before civilization dawned upon that wilderness; who came and made his home in sight of the old house I now live in as far back as 1828. He represented Wisconsin as a territory in Congress—Michigan and Wisconsin—and represented the territory of Iowa as Senator of the United States. I can allude to but one man, my old-time and honored friend, George W. Jones. (Applause.)

It was with peculiar affection that I look upon these early Law-Makers, and while I am not one of them, yet I am the son of one. I saw the Third and Fourth General Assembly, where I met some of these gentlemen, who have probably forgotten me, but from that early time, boy as I was, I have known them ever since, and I wish only to add that I sincerely wish, and I know that it is the hope and prayer of every Senator present, that the evening of your days may be as contented and happy as its morning was full of promise and as its meridian was full of honor. (Applause.)

SENATOR GATCH: I would be glad to respond to the call of the Speaker, but the Senate will be more edified by hearing from others of our visitors.

GENERAL JONES: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen*—I feel very highly honored that my noble friend, Senator Shields, should bring my name forward to-day, but I will say that if I was honored by being elected first Senator from Iowa, I must give credit for that honor to his father as much as to any other man. His father was Representative from my county, and upon his vote it depended, as much as upon any other man. My friend A. K. Eaton was another of the men that sent me there to represent Iowa at the Capital.

I know we are intruding upon your time and I don't wish to detain you any longer, but I wish to say that I am deeply grateful to the people of Iowa for the distinguished honors that they have conferred upon me. They elected me as the first delegate in Congress, and then they elected me as their first United States Senator. How can I feel otherwise than grateful to such a noble people. I am proud of the honor of having given the name of Iowa to this State, as I gave the name of Wisconsin to our sister State.

No other country can compare with Iowa in agricultural products. It has improved more rapidly than any other section of the whole country.

I thank you for this honor of being called out to speak to you on this occasion. (Applause.)

JUDGE WRIGHT: Our invitation to wait upon the House of Representatives expired at three o'clock. With many other things to which the young men around here can attribute their success in life, is the fact that they have always been prompt. Therefore, while I am sure we would all like very much to remain here longer and hear, as we have heard already, from the members of the Senate and also from the members of our own body, I deem it my duty, since we are reminded of the fact that we are expected at three o'clock in the House of Representatives, to say to you once more that we return to you thanks for the complimentary manner in which you have received us.

To me, also, has been assigned the great pleasure of asking you to visit us at the Young Men's Christian Association rooms to-morrow forenoon in a body. That invitation has been extended and we expect you there. Then

we shall have an opportunity to hear from you further, and also from the gentlemen there.

Mr. President—Every day we live in this grand and proud State of Iowa, standing in these marble halls, thinking of our country, west and east, and north and south, how much prouder and prouder we become of Iowa; Iowa—it is a trite saying, “Iowa, the beautiful land;” Iowa, the land of all others; as we think, ahead of all others in intelligence; equal to all others in morality, and everything that goes to make people happy and prosperous. Away back in the history of the Nation, it comes to us that a great feast was given, and that the father and son were there, each one attending the banquet. When the father was asked, “Upon what do you most pride yourself?” he said, “Upon being the father of such a son.” When the son was asked the same question, his answer was, “Upon being the son of such a father.”

Gentlemen of the Senate, and Gentlemen of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association of Iowa, we have been, as you are, making the laws and records of the State for future generations, and I trust we will all, so live and act that Iowa can say she is proud of us as a portion of her children, and that we in turn can say also that we are proud that we are citizens of Iowa. [Applause.]

The Pioneer Law-Makers then repaired to the Hall of Representatives.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 3:00 P. M.

The arrival of the Pioneer Law-Makers in the House was announced by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

SPEAKER MITCHELL: *Gentlemen*—On behalf of the House of Representatives of the State of Iowa, I desire to extend to you Pioneer Law-Makers a most cordial welcome, and thank you for your presence this afternoon. We will be glad to hear anything that you have to say to us. Again I extend to you our hearty welcome.

JUDGE WRIGHT: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives*—In behalf of my distinguished colleagues—and they are all distinguished—the truth about it is we have not any persons in this State but what are distinguished. Every citizen in Iowa is distinguished, but these young men around me are specially distinguished. I say in behalf of these distinguished gentlemen around me, I return to you, Mr. Speaker, and to you, gentlemen thanks for the compliment you paid us in extending to us the invitation to be here at this time. This is our third reunion. I might say we have a very fair attendance—quite as many as we expected considering the surroundings. We are here at work. In the years long gone some of them at least attempted to do what they best could for the interests of Iowa. They have watched the progress and development of the State. They have seen all the General Assemblies, and some of them have represented constituencies in Congress and held State offices, from 1846 to this time. They have watched these steps of progress taken by our State with not a little interest. They have taken pride in it and they take pride in it to-day. It is my fortune as the youngest man of the entire crowd to

preside over them. They wanted the youngest man and so selected me. I am the autocrat of this body. I am not allowed to make a speech if I wanted to, and I would not if I were wanted to, and being the autocrat, I therefore, have the absolute power to call upon any of these young men who are with me to respond. And you, Mr. Speaker, as I look into your eye have the same right, and you can call on any person you please, and it will be his duty to respond. I know you have a number of members present who can talk. I now introduce to you the best looking man in the crowd—not the oldest, but the best looking man in our crowd, who went out among the Pottawattamies before they left this country, and grew up with them until civilization came in, and who has progressed and held his own pretty well since. I introduce to you Senator Pusey, of Pottawattamie, County.

SENATOR PUSEY: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen*—The Judge has a very happy way of embarrassing us young fellows. Since entering these halls I have been impressed with the thought, “How quickly our fondest idols are dashed to pieces.” I have been listening, a quiet auditor, to some of the most eloquent and entertaining remarks filled with statistics, filled with history, and from our meeting on the other side of the river in which we, when leaving that hall, left it with the glow of satisfaction, feeling that we had builded Iowa; that we had formed all the laws that were worth obeying in Iowa; that we were the pioneers who laid the foundation of this beautiful building, the pride of our beloved State. But when I get over here I find myself surrounded by young athletes from all parts of the State, and I find that we are only just commencing to build Iowa. I am like the little boy, a son of one of the Federal soldiers of the late war. He had listened at the table and the fireside to the stories of the camp, and the field, and the march, until his young mind was filled with the stories of the adventures of his father. One day a comrade came to visit, and in the course of conversation he got to talking about his company, his regiment and his division, and finally the little boy looked up in surprise and said, “Why, father, I thought you put down the rebellion!” I came across the river supposing that we fellows had builded Iowa, but I see around me that evidence of future growth and prosperity that makes me believe, gentlemen, this afternoon, we are just standing upon the threshold of a glorious future.

Now, I don't want to make a speech. Judge Wright said he didn't want to either, but he is always talking—is the best talker in the State. I wish he would let us fellows off who are so easily embarrassed when before such audiences. I think possibly, I could best entertain you with a little anecdote—somewhat personal perhaps, but it relates more to three Senators who are yet living. At the time it made a very great impression upon them—one of them, at least.

One cold winter morning in 1858, after traveling one hundred and fifty miles in a stage coach, with the thermometer twenty-one or twenty-two degrees below zero, I arrived at the old Des Moines House and asked where the Capitol was, and was directed up here to a little brick building. I came to the building, and when I went in and stepped forward, I found Charley Nourse there as Secretary *pro tem* of the Senate. I handed him my credentials and was sworn in—but never qualified. I dropped into the nearest seat I could find. There was not a face in the room that I had seen before. I didn't know personally the Governor, nor a member, nor a single State officer,

and I felt as Mark Twain did on entering the great theater and looking around: says he, "The most solemn thing that enters my mind on this occasion is, that in this vast room there appears not a single person of my acquaintance." Being one of the youngest members, of course I was inexperienced and unknown. In fact, I didn't know my own constituency. I had only been in this State one year, and was a Representative of twenty-eight Counties out on the Missouri River. There are fifteen or twenty of you here now representing those wealthy counties.

The Standing Committees were announced, and I found myself placed, among other committees, on the Committee on Banks. At the close of the morning session, an old farmer, back in the corner of the old Senate Chamber, arose, offering a resolution instructing the Committee on Banks to bring in two kinds of bills, going into particulars as to the restrictions, scope, and power of that Legislature. I turned to a friend of mine and remarked, "I am opposed to that resolution," and says he; "So am I." I says; "Who is that Senator?" and he says, "He is an old farmer that don't know anything about banking. Let's just go for him." And thereupon there was instituted a very lively debate which covered the whole question and scope of banks, and the finances and condition of our State, and the result was, a resolution or instruction was passed as a compliment to that old farmer, and he was unanimously put upon the Committee on Banks. My informant, who was the young and guileless Judge Trimball, and myself, found that there was but one thing more exciting than hunting a Statesman who happened to have farmer's clothes on, and that was when the Statesman turned around and hunted you! That farmer was Samuel J. Kirkwood! There is a moral, young men, in this. I was very young and inexperienced that morning. I have learned something since—have you? [Laughter and applause.]

MR. CHASE: *Mr. Speaker*—I hardly know how to find words to express the high honor that I feel, and that the other members of the House feel, towards the members of the Pioneer Law-Makers, who are our honored guests to-day. It seems to me that there can be nothing more impressive than to see these gentlemen, whose hair has whitened in the course of many winters, with their blood still warm with loyalty for the grand old State of Iowa. I believe, knowing many of them as I do personally, and others by reputation, that they will never become old, but that they can rejoice and be glad in the prosperity of this State and the proud position she occupies in the sisterhood of States.

We do not forget that the prosperity we now enjoy—that we are so pleasantly situated in this magnificent structure to-day—are due to the fact that firm and strong intelligence, good judgment and discretion, laid the foundations broad and deep upon which we have built and prospered. The present is always a lineal descendant of the past. No State can be prosperous unless those who made its constitution, who first ushered it into existence as a State, laid its foundations upon adamant which would support any structure which would be built thereafter; and I will say that, with hearts full of appreciation, we recognize that the blessings we enjoy in this great State and the prosperity that has been accorded to us, so wonderful beyond everything we have ever seen, is due to the fact that we have had men in

the early history of the State who made no mistakes, and who predicated this State government upon principles that must ever endure.

I desire to express, as far as I can, the appreciation of this House that you are with us to-day; that you have been spared to visit us here, and to show that you have a continued interest in what is going on in the legislative halls of the State of Iowa. I can also say further, that I hope you may long be spared to assist in the building up of our prosperity and improving and furthering the best interests of the State of Iowa.

JUDGE WRIGHT: *Mr. Speaker*—I knew that Mr. Pusey had a great many good qualities, but I never suspected before that modesty was one of them. I was wondering to myself how a man of his excessive modesty ever got into the Senate of the State of Iowa, but he made it quite plain before he concluded, when he said that there was not one man out of ten of his constituents that knew anything about him! (Laughter.)

Now, I am about to introduce to you a gentleman who has a good name, but if I hear any person again talking about modesty, I think I shall shoot him on the spot. The gentleman I shall introduce to you is one of the early presiding officers of the State; a man who did gallant and valiant service in the field to preserve this nation. While I say he has a good name, and while he has the same name as I have, I want you to understand once for all that he is not related to me—Gen. Ed Wright.

GEN. WRIGHT: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen*—There is one thing I have always been ashamed of, when I have been around in certain places, and that is my name. I don't know that I have anything to say to this audience. I never made a speech in my life; I never attempted to make but one. I was connected with the General Assembly a great while ago, and I was like a great many other parties, I thought I had to make a speech. It was in the House of Representatives in 1856. At that time the General Assemblies were in the habit of passing resolutions and establishing political principles. I found out pretty soon after the General Assembly convened that we would have resolutions of that kind. I thought I could make a speech if I prepared myself carefully upon that question. I spent a good deal of time upon that speech. I thought I had a good one, and think yet I had a pretty good one. I memorized it and repeated it out in the woods and it sounded very well. The resolutions, just as I expected, were brought up. When the time came around and I expected to make a speech, there was another member got the floor and got up and made a pretty fair speech; when he got through, Barker from Dubuque got up and moved that we sing the doxology and adjourn! That spoiled my speech, and the next morning a gentleman from Muscatine made some remarks and passed the resolution. A few days afterwards, my speech was made in the Senate, made by two or three members in the Senate, and I burned my speech and have never tried to write or make a speech since.

We thank you, gentlemen of the present General Assembly, for the courtesy extended to us. I have been connected with the General Assemblies for a good while. First, I was a member in 1856, and I believe I have seen every General Assembly since, except the one in '62, and they are all about alike. I don't see that one is better than the others, but it always seems that the ones we were members of, and naturally, were the best.

Mr. Dayton, of Allamakee, was then called for.

MR. DAYTON: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen*—Being but little acquainted with the early times and history of the State, I am unable to tell the situation of the early Law-makers when repairing the Constitution and enacting the laws of our State; but I understand they did it in a room where it was less difficult to speak than where we are congregated now. I have found the greatest difficulty is to get an attentive audience, and the next to yell loud enough to be heard on the opposite side of the room. These two matters are of vast importance when you come to speech-making. One of the most necessary things in speech making is to have something to talk about, and that is just what I lack at the present time, and for that reason I shall have to discontinue any further remarks.

JUDGE WRIGHT: We would like to hear from Judge Rowell, of Union County.

JUDGE ROWELL: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen*—I am pleased to be here to-day and to meet with the present General Assembly, but I confess the highest pleasure that I have is being able to meet with the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa. These, Mr. Speaker, are not a company of ordinary men. Here is represented in this aggregate body, men who have come down since the earliest settlement of the territory of which Iowa is now composed; men who have had to do with the very first laws that are written upon our statute books; men who have had to do with making the very constitution under which we have lived. There is represented in this body men from all the Legislatures from the beginning on to the Fourteenth General Assembly. We have not met merely for the purpose of congratulating each other that we are here yet, but we have met for a better purpose. We have met for the purpose of handing down to the State of Iowa, as far as it is in our power, some of the history of this State. I am pleased to say to you that this body of gray-headed men have that within their own knowledge which can give a complete history of this State. Mr. Speaker, we shall pass over to this State a large amount of written history of Iowa, with the expectation and hope that such steps will be taken as will be necessary to preserve it in the archives of the State. We are here, sir, to look about and see what we have done. We ask you, gentlemen, to take the history of the legislation of this State and compare it with the legislation of other States; compare it with the history of our country and see if, in your judgment, gentlemen, these men have not done their work faithfully and satisfactorily, not only to themselves, but to those who lived in their time and those who shall come after them.

Now, we are not here for the purpose of suggesting legislation. We are here to remind you that the laws of Iowa are in your custody and keeping for the present. You may tear down, or you may build up, and after years will determine the wisdom of your acts. All we can say is, strive to do that which in after years, when you shall become our Pioneer Law-Makers, you shall look back with pride upon the past, as these, our friends, can look back upon the labors of their days. In doing this, do that which in your judgment shall seem right and serve the best interests of your constituents, but do not be afraid of them. That legislator who comes up here afraid of his constituents would run from his shadow, and would accomplish nothing for himself or the State he represents.

I return sincere thanks to you for the courtesy you have paid this body—I don't mean myself personally, but to these, my friends, and in their absence if it please Him who keepeth all things that they should return again, we trust they will find the State of Iowa in as safe hands as to-day, and in as prosperous a condition as we find it at this hour.

MR. WILSON (of the present House): I am somewhat out of place among these old gray heads, and if I had known that the Speaker expected to call me out, I should have gone into company where I more properly belong, but as I overlook that, I hope you will overlook and forget me for the time being.

I am glad to see these old men here whom we reverence and love as we love all those things which are good. We recognize in them those to whom we look, and whose steps we are glad to follow, and I only hope that the Legislature convened here at the present, and those that shall succeed, will each be able to look back upon the past with as much satisfaction and pride as the Pioneer Law-Makers assembled here to-day.

I thank the Speaker and the gentlemen around me here for extending me this opportunity of expressing my feelings, and for your attention. (Applause.)

JUDGE WRIGHT: I feel, though we have but a few moments left, that I will not be doing justice to the occasion if I do not ask a gentleman who is here to arise so that you can at least see him and know who he is. While he needs no introduction, I will say that he is the oldest Law-Maker west of the Mississippi River, and I was about to say east of the Mississippi River—a man who represented the country of which Iowa was once a part before Iowa had any existence. A gentleman who represented us not only in the nation, but also in the judiciary, and afterward represented us with such ability in the Senate of the United States as well as the House of Representatives. I introduce to you General Jones. (Applause.)

GENERAL JONES: *Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives*—I am very much delighted in having been called upon to say a few words to you. I do not believe I am entitled to the great credit my friend has given me. I believe I am the oldest Senator who served in the Congress while I was there, now living in the United States. There are only two other members still living in this country that were Senators in '36, one of them, Bradbury of Maine, and the other, Alfred Phelps, my esteemed, beloved friend. I was a Representative and he was a Representative in 1835. He did not live in the Territory of Michigan.

I paid a visit to Detroit in October, and my friends prepared to give me a reception. They invited him, and he went from Ann Arbor to Detroit for the express purpose of meeting me. We had not met since '53, when we served six years together in the Senate of the United States. Some of our friends spoke to the gentleman who gave the reception and said they wanted to know if we knew each other. When he came down I was the first man in the room, and I was watching for him; and the moment he walked into the house I knew that noble Senator. He came down into the room, and I looked at him and he looked at me, and we recognized each other. I said, "God bless you." (Applause.)

Mr. Richman, of Muscatine, was next called out by the Speaker.

Mr. Speaker—It is certainly an unexpected honor to be called upon to make remarks upon an occasion of this kind. I was not expecting that I would be called upon to say anything, and am wholly unprepared to make remarks befitting an occasion of the kind which is now before us.

It affords me, however, great pleasure to meet these gentlemen of such wide range and experience, who have participated in such deliberations and I trust that we in our generation will discharge our duties as faithfully as these representatives of a former generation have done.

I do not feel like taking up the time of this meeting with any extended remarks, and merely desire to express individually the esteem that I feel confident every member of this House and all these gentlemen assembled have for the ability and integrity of these gentlemen who are now before us and who honor us with their presence this afternoon.

JUDGE WRIGHT: I suppose according to the program it is time for us to retire. Before doing so, however, I wish to say two things. The first is, that you have, as you are aware, as a body, extended to you an invitation to visit us as a body at three o'clock to-morrow. That invitation you have and I now emphasize it, and trust that every member of this House and its officers, together with the members of the Senate, whom we have already invited to be with us to-morrow at three o'clock, will come. As the ladies say, "return our call;" but don't do it by cards, come in person. We have a meeting to-night at 7:30, and shall have some very interesting papers from gentlemen appointed some weeks since, and who have prepared themselves with care. Among others, without naming all of them, we shall expect papers from General Jones, Dr. Yeomans, and also from our ex-Governor, Cyrus C. Carpenter. I am advised that all of these gentlemen come prepared, and I trust you will honor us with your presence to-night as well as to-morrow.

Now, as we are about to retire, in the name of all the Pioneer Law-Makers, I again return thanks for the most cordial manner in which you have received us. As I stand to-day in this beautiful Capitol, I think of the time when, fifty-two years ago, I crossed the Mississippi river seeking to make my home in this then new territory. I was quite a boy. I had no right to vote then. I was coming to a new land and among strangers. I was coming to a new land, among strangers, and without money. I was going to see what I could do in this new country. I stopped, Mr. Speaker, in that county of Van Buren of which you have heard something. I left there twenty-five years ago and then sought the capital. I remember the men who assisted in making Iowa what it is. Of those, again, I remember Lucas, and Chambers, and Clark, and Grimes, and Hempstead, and Briggs, and Lowe—the first Governors of our State; and I remember Mason, Williams, Hall and Greene—all gone now. I remember also prominent Legislators from 1840 who assembled in the old Mt. Zion church in Burlington, and that wooden structure in Iowa City, and then the more palatial edifice where our State University now is. I could tell you name after name of those men who have served the State, but they are all gone, and, Mr. Speaker, the grand, great and important thought with me is this: Men come and go; Legislatures meet and adjourn; the strong in mind and body

pass away; men die, but thoughts live forever. The thinker passes away, but the thought lives on for all time. The thoughts of these great men have been put upon the statute books of our State; have been given in the decisions of our courts, and those thoughts will live after them when they are gone. These gentlemen around me, as I believe in all honesty and sincerity, endeavor to so impress their thoughts that they should be good thoughts and that they might worthily live on. Some few of them have lived on. The great body of them are gone, but their deeds live on, their thoughts live on, and I know, I know, I know, that with all the advantages that Iowa has had for the last fifty years; I know, I know, I know, with all the circumstances that have been around us to assist and build us up; I know, I know, I know, with all the advantages you, Mr. Speaker, and you, gentlemen of this House, have, that we, as we pass away, can safely entrust into your hands the work which comes down to you, and you and those to follow will uphold the banner of Iowa, and as we pass away, we shall feel and know it is in safe and reliable hands. (Applause.)

A motion was made in the House of Representatives to accept the invitation of the Early Law-Makers, which was carried unanimously.

The Pioneer Law-Makers' Association then adjourned to meet at 7:30 o'clock in the evening.

7:30 P. M., February 10th, 1892.

The meeting was called to order by the President.

Song: "A. Thousand Years," Quartette.

Address by Gov. C. C. Carpenter:

REMINISCENCES OF THE WINTER OF 1858 IN DES MOINES.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen—On the second Tuesday in October, 1857, the first general election was held under the present Constitution of the State. Although the election was under the new Constitution, the apportionments for Senatorial and Representative Districts, on the basis of population, had been made by the Sixth General Assembly, and in accordance with the provisions of the old Constitution. The members of the Legislature chosen at this election constituted, with the hold-over Senators, the first General Assembly under the new, and the seventh under the old Constitution. As illustrative of the increase in wealth and population during the intervening years, I may say, that the Thirteenth Representative District, which I was chosen to represent, was constituted of nineteen Counties, viz.: Worth, Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Wright, Hancock, Winnebago, Humboldt, Kossuth, Web-

ster, Hamilton, Calhoun, Pocahontas, Palo Alto, Sac, Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, and Bancroft. All these Counties, comprising a territory larger than any Congressional District in Iowa to-day, were grouped together, without the benefit of the "Gerrymander," to secure a sufficient population to entitle them to one Representative.

On the 11th day of January, 1858, this General Assembly came together at Des Moines. It was the first General Assembly that had met in this city. The people of the city were much elated at what they regarded as their good fortune in securing the re-location of the Capitol, and were correspondingly rejoiced at the first assembling of a legislative body in their midst. We were therefore welcomed with a hospitality and friendly warmth that could not well be repeated. I came here two or three days before the time of assembling, traveling by stage down the old State road leading from Fort Dodge to Des Moines, staying over night at Boonsboro, and arriving in the city the evening of the second day.

Des Moines was then a town of about 3,000 inhabitants, as two years thereafter at the Federal census, it only had a population of about 3,900. It was literally a city of "magnificent distances." The site of the Capitol was then a wooded hill, occupied by the old (then new) Capitol building, and perhaps some twenty-five or thirty family residences scattered here and there in the openings of the timber. The bottom intervening between the foot of the hill and the river was a low muddy flat, comparatively unoccupied and unimproved. In this connection I remember an incident which shows the character of the bottom during much of that winter. On the day fixed for the election of State Printer, Binder, etc., Will Porter, who was the Democratic caucus candidate for printer, started with a friend in a buggy to come over from the west side to witness the proceedings of the Joint Convention. Their horse and buggy stuck in the mud and they were detained until the State Printer, John Teesdale, had been elected. Will laughingly said on his arrival, that if his horse had not failed him he would have broken the Republican slate. The east bank of the river was fringed for half a mile along the main front with residences, a few shops, a mill and a woolen factory. The west side of the river comprised the larger portion of the population and business. There were then but few residences which to-day would be regarded as equal to second class, and all business was confined to the street fronting the river and Second Street.

A bright editor of the *Boone County News*, Luther Sanders, came down during the winter to see the town and look in on the Legislature; and upon his return described his trip and gave his impressions of the city. He said (I quote from memory) that when he came out on the wooded heights northwest of the city and caught his first view of it, "he just fell off into it."

I have said that a Legislative Assembly was a new thing to the population of that day, and that on every hand was manifested courteous and generous hospitality. The houses of her citizens were not large, but the doors were wide, the hinges swung towards the interior, and the Legislators who had time, and were given to the social amenities, were everywhere generously entertained. During the winter almost the entire population united in giving a reception to the General Assembly. The festivities occurred in the Sherman Hall, situated, I think, at the corner of Third Street and Court Avenue. It was a whole-souled western "blow-out." The lamps (literally) shone

over fair women and entranced Legislators until after the midnight hour, and the dance and promenade still went on.

The General Assembly was not to be outdone by the good citizens in the social amenities. So on March 12th the two Houses adopted the following resolution: .

Resolved (If the Senate concur), That the use of the Hall of the House of Representatives, Senate Chamber, Supreme Court Room, and Library, be given to Messrs. Coolbaugh, Kirkwood, Patterson, Edwards, Lundy, Jackson, and Clune, on Thursday evening, March 16th, for the purpose of giving a festival to the citizens of Des Moines.

A little discussion sprang up upon the passage of this resolution. One moved to strike out "Library," and another "Supreme Court Room," expressing a doubt as to the constitutionality of using rooms which had been set apart for these purposes for such an affair as a festival. But the imagination of the entire Assembly snuffed the aroma of the forthcoming spread, and before their eyes flitted the beauty and intelligence of the city, so all constitutional scruples were silenced and the resolution passed unanimously. At that day a donation of ten dollars by each Legislator was sufficient to furnish a generous entertainment for the entire city. In fact, at that time, the one hundred and fifty Legislators, with the officers of the two Houses, and the usual quota of lobbyists and visitors which such an assembly calls together, made a very appreciable addition to the population of the city, and the whole thing was thoroughly enjoyed by all the people.

I would like to say more of the Des Moines of 1858, and give my impression of some of the men who, in the years that have since come and gone, have been no ordinary factors in making the history of the State. Our State has been too indifferent to the preservation of the material from which history is made. Other States have expended thousands of dollars in gathering and preserving for the use of their future historians, the data from which the story of their growth will be elaborated, and by which the deeds of their heroes and statesmen will be kept alive. I hope that this neglect and short-sightedness of the past may be in some measure repaired by a greater wisdom in the future. But I must not linger, as I desire to give some incidents of Legislative proceedings, as also my impression of some of the men of that period. I must necessarily limit my observations respecting individuals to the few whom I regarded as the most striking figures. I would like to speak of them all, for the truth is, that when a casual on-looker casts his eye over a legislative body he is apt to be impressed that it is composed quite largely of pretty ordinary men. But let him come into the nearer relation of fellow membership, and wrestle with those men in committee and on the floor, and he will find that, without exception they are all possessed of characteristics for certain lines of work which furnish abundant reasons for their having been chosen from the body of their fellow citizens for the special duties of the Legislator.

When that Legislature assembled we stood upon the threshold of the great events which, three years afterward, resulted in the Rebellion. Some of the most conspicuous characters of that day had been drawn into new relations to public affairs by their well known anti-slavery sympathies. Such was the fact in relation to the most distinguished man then in public

life in the State of Iowa. I need hardly say that I allude to the out-going Governor, James W. Grimes. He had been a member of three Legislative assemblies prior to his election as Governor in 1854. But he was a Whig, was in the minority in this State, and except the fact that he had shown the solid and persistent qualities which afterward distinguished him, he had not made himself particularly active or influential in public affairs. But the long series of encroachments by the slave power, climaxing in the repeal of the Missouri compromise, aroused the lion in his nature. He was nominated for Governor on the anti-Nebraska ticket in 1854, was elected, had filled the office to the advantage of the State and with such fidelity to the growing sentiment of the times as to make himself illustrious in the ranks of those who were held in party affiliation by common anti-slavery convictions. He cared nothing for personal show—never played a part to secure the approval of even the constituency whose good opinion he valued. He was in no sense a trimmer and could not be a demagogue. I saw much of him during the canvass preceding the caucus which nominated him for United States Senator. There was quite an element, especially among some of the younger Republicans in the Legislature who were supporters of Judge Smythe, of Linn, and Frederick E. Bissell, of Dubuque. They sought to form various combinations to defeat him. He knew all their movements and knew the motives that actuated them. And while he was exceedingly anxious to succeed, as it was natural that a proud and ambitious man should be, still I believed *then*, and I know *now*, that he would have preferred defeat a thousand times rather than to have secured success by compromising, in any degree, his self-respect.

He stood erect and unyielding throughout this trying ordeal, and when it was over was unembarrassed by a single personal promise or political pledge. He could remember a friend who had been true to his interests without any exactions as the price of his support; but he never sought by any form of words or through the intercession of mutual friends to conciliate an enemy. If a man was his friend his good will must rest upon the basis of mutual respect; if he was his enemy he would not buy his friendship at any price. He was a man of the simplest personal habits. In dress, in the food upon his table, and the house in which he lived there was comfort, but no ostentation. Although no children had come to his home, he loved children; and I shall never forget his telling me how he had trained up to physical health the little girl whom he and his wife had taken to rear, and who came to their home so frail and slender in health that the neighbors thought her but a tender flower transplanted in this beautiful home to die. He had heart as well as brain. He was a Senator worthy of his State, and fitted by nature for the duties of the supreme hour of his great career.

Governor Lowe, his successor, was in many respects his antipode. He was his equal in honesty of purpose and in fidelity to his moral convictions. But he lacked in some respects his self-sustaining steadiness of character, was more the creature of his emotions, and more largely influenced by his surroundings. He was a man somewhat too visionary for the cold realities of life. He could sometimes be made a victim of wolves in sheeps' clothing. He was, especially, I think, likely to fail in his calculations as to worldly accumulations. And yet, with his activity of mind and body, he was constantly engaging in new enterprises. But he was a good lawyer, and when

on the bench, either as a *nisi prius* Judge, or as a member of the Supreme Court of the State, he was never given to visionary views of the law. He was utterly without moral or physical fear, and although mild of manner, and ordinarily of a gentle and religious nature, when aroused to anger by what he regarded as an affront, he was a dangerous antagonist. I shall never forget a scene of the last night of the legislative session. Bills and resolutions were going through the two Houses and reaching him for signature in quick succession. He had been led to sign a joint resolution, of the propriety of which he was in doubt, by what he believed to be the misrepresentation of a member of the House, and when this impression dawned upon him he flew into a towering passion. A few moments after I heard not very far from my seat the hot words of a quarrel, and turning around saw the Governor, white with rage, shaking his long forefinger in the face of the gentleman whom he thought had deceived him, whilst his red-hot words were suited to his gestures. Mutual friends, however, succeeded in quieting matters, and mutual explanations followed and restored good will.

He told me himself, years afterward, of an occurrence in connection with the pardoning power, whilst he was Governor, which illustrates the character of the man. A scoundrel in the penitentiary had succeeded by the use of some drug, which had been furnished him, in so reducing his flesh, and producing such pallor in his face, as to lead the physician and Governor to believe that he was about to die with consumption. The Governor in the goodness of his heart pardoned him, in order that he might die at home. A few months afterward, he said, while at a hotel in Montrose, he was approached by a stately, well-dressed fellow, who introduced himself as the man he had pardoned. The Governor was mad. Whether he was most outraged because the rascal did not die according to contract, or because he had deceived him, he did not say; but he so berated him—threatened that he would have him arrested and re-incarcerated within the next two hours—that the fellow fled across the Mississippi river into Illinois and he never saw or heard of him afterward.

The story is told that when he was on the bench of the Muscatine District, a lawyer, whose case had been badly pulled to pieces in his court, instead of going down to the hotel and swearing at the court, as is said to be the habit of some lawyers who lose their cases, made some rather uncomplimentary allusions to the court within the hearing of the Judge. Of course there was a scene. The Judge fined him and ordered him in arrest. The lawyer was still madder, and said if the Judge was not protected by his office he would get even with him. "Ah!" says the Judge, "if you want to try titles on that score I am ready for you and will remit fine and imprisonment." The story goes that the lawyer paid his fine. But withal he was a most generous-hearted, patriotic and noble man. I saw him in the closing years of his life struggling for bread by the practice of the law in Washington City, and shall never cease to grieve that the last years of his life were imbittered by disappointments.

The Lieutenant-Governor, Oran Faville, was a polished, scholarly man. Had for years been at the head of a seminary of learning in Vermont, and after coming to Iowa was Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of the Board of Education and State Superintendent of Public Instruction—a most useful and estimable man.

The State Senate contained several men who subsequently were distinguished in public life. I have only time to mention three or four. The finest debater, possessing an extraordinary power of analysis, was Senator Kirkwood. His subsequent career is well known. I may parody Webster's defense of Massachusetts in speaking of him: "*He needs no eulogy. There he stands. Look at him.*" I boarded during the winter at Alexander Scott's, whose house, now falling into decay, stands on the east bank of the river near the Rock Island railroad bridge. My fellow boarders were Senators Rusch, of Scott; Thompson, of Linn; Atkins, of Winneshiek, and Carter, of Clayton, and Representatives Trumbull, Drummond, John W. Thompson, of Scott; E. E. Cooley, of Winneshiek, and Stewart, of Dubuque. I became very well acquainted with Nicholas J. Rusch, then a Senator, subsequently Lieutenant-Governor, and a staff officer during the war, where, I think, he sickened and died. Senator Rusch was a most interesting man. He was a Prussian by birth and education and an American by choice. He was tall, straight, with black hair, a large, round dark eye and brunette complexion. He was not only one of the handsomest men in the Senate, but in education, in wide and varied reading, and in travel and observation he was probably its most cultivated man. And withal he was a most genial and companionable man.

Another bright and useful man who afterwards was an able Congressman, was J. B. Grinnell. He was a ready debater and really one of the most busy and active men in the Senate. I did not see him after the adjournment of that Legislature until I met him in Washington the day after the great review following the close of the war. I shall not forget the cordial welcome with which he received me—invited me to call at his room, which was the room in the National Hotel once occupied by Henry Clay and in which he died. As my imagination was always awakened by reminiscences of Clay I spent a most enjoyable evening with a genial man in that historic room.

Another man who was a valuable Senator and afterwards a man of distinction and usefulness in public affairs was Jonathan W. Cattell, of Cedar County. During the subsequent years of his active life, as State Auditor, as Senator from Polk, he was always clear-headed, honest and industrious.

If time permitted I would like to speak of John R. Allen and John W. Rankin, of Lee County, the latter a Colonel in the war of the Rebellion—of Henry H. Trimble, of Davis, also an officer in the war who bears a memento of his service to this day; of Alvin Sanders, of Henry, subsequently Governor of Nebraska and a United States Senator; of Daniel Anderson, of Monroe, another honored soldier of the war; of W. H. M. Pusey, of Pottawattmie; of William Loughridge, of Mahaska; of A. O. Patterson, of Muscatine; of M. L. McPherson, of Madison, and David S. Wilson, of Dubuque, but I must forbear. I turn now to the House, with the personnel of which I was more familiar. First in order I will name the Speaker, Stephen B. Shelledy, of Jasper County. Mr. Shelledy was at the time past middle age, had served in two of the Territorial Assemblies and in both Constitutional Conventions. He was a very fair and impartial Speaker and retired from the office carrying with him the respect and cordial good will of every member of the House. During the war he was a soldier in the Grey-beard Regiment and was always and everywhere a patriotic citizen.

James F. Wilson was Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means,

and a decidedly strong and able Legislator. His standing in this Legislature was a prophecy of his future career. He has since been three times a member of Congress, serving during the great events of the war as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and is to-day serving his second term as United States Senator.

Another member of that House whom I regarded as a remarkable man, was Dennis A. Mahoney, of Dubuque. He was probably past fifty years old and an editor by profession. He had been partially palsied for several years, which caused a constant shake of his head. When he rose to speak he stood with the tips of the fingers of both hands touching the desk before him. He never made a gesture, but just talked with an accuracy of diction and a force of logic which always gave him the undivided attention of the House. He was a Democrat and the acknowledged leader of his party. Next to him, as a debater on that side of the House, was Lincoln Clark. He, too, was probably past fifty; hair and beard white, whilst his form was erect and his complexion youthful and blooming. He was an exceptionally handsome man and a very likeable man.

Next to him among the Democrats, in point of influence and power, was Wm. W. Belknap, of Lee County. He was then young, fine looking, with a military bearing. I came to know Belknap well, and was so familiar with his characteristics, that at the very beginning of the Rebellion I believed he would become a soldier of distinction. He was partially reared and educated in a military camp; was born in the city of Washington whilst his father was Adjutant-General of the United States Army; his tastes and ambitions were decidedly military. He was a soldier and a patriot. And notwithstanding the misfortunes of his later years, I have never seen a soldier who served with, or under his command, whether belonging to his regiment or brigade, who would not fight for him or his reputation. And the man who carried into civil life the love and respect of men whom he led on the field of battle, was no ordinary man, and his memory will find an honorable place in history.

If I were to name all the men who were entitled to honorable mention in that General Assembly it seems to me that I would have to go through the roll call. There was Zimri Streeter, familiarly known as old "Black Hawk," who was a man of infinite jest with a large fund of common sense, and M. M. Trumbull, an able man who enjoyed the distinction of having served in the Mexican War. During the Rebellion he rose to the rank of Brigadier-General. And there was Tom Mitchell, a man of sturdy character and sturdy patriotism, and Wm. H. Seevers, a thorough lawyer, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, and in recent years the honored Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

And there was Ed Wright, of Cedar, a student of parliamentary law, and an industrious Legislator. No bill found its way through the House that did not receive his careful scrutiny. His service in the House was but a promise of his future useful life. As an officer in the war of the Rebellion, as Secretary of State, and finally for long years the efficient and pains-taking Secretary of the Board of Capitol Commissioners. I verily believe he saw every brick and every stone that went into the massive walls of that great Capitol building. With Ed. Wright, wherever you put him, the manifesto never exceeded the performance. And there was B. F. Gue, to whom the

State is more indebted than to any other man for the persistency and good judgment with which he advocated the establishment of the Agricultural College; and W. H. Clune and Justus Clark, the one bright, and the other solid; and honest John Edwards, who afterward led a regiment and a brigade in the Civil War. But I must not lengthen this roll call, however much I would like to do so. There were, however, two other members of that House whom I can not forbear to mention. One was George W. McCrary. He was the youngest member of the House, but he was one of the most influential and useful. He was a man of a pre-eminently level head. He was a fine debater. His habits were faultless. I don't suppose he knew the taste of spirituous liquors. I doubt whether he knew the jack of spades from the ace of clubs. He was always in his seat, and always attending to business. It is not surprising then that in subsequent years he should become an honored member of Congress, serve his country as Secretary of War, resign that office to accept the position of Circuit Judge of the U. S. Court, and resign that office to become the distinguished Attorney of one of the greatest railroad corporations in America.

I come now to speak of Tom Drummond. We were fellow boarders. I knew him well. He was young, ambitious and a politician by instinct. He was a man of striking personal appearance, tall, straight and willowy, hair and eyes black, and a brunette complexion. There was in his every movement a sort of dash which would attract attention anywhere. He spent much of the winter in efforts to secure the location of the Institution for the Blind, at Vinton, and his efforts were crowned with success. I have been told that upon his return two years afterward as a Senator, he had equally as hard a fight to retain it, and secure an additional appropriation. But he was successful. He was a forcible speaker, a strong partisan, and a good friend. When Lincoln became President he went with the large crowd of Iowans to the inauguration. He was also an applicant for an appointment to a civil office under the new administration. Senator Harlan, who was particularly his friend, tried to secure for him some office suited to his tastes and capacity. But competing applicants were so numerous and persistent that he had about given up his purpose and was preparing to return home, when Senator Harlan said to him: "The army is being increased and minor offices are being filled by appointments from civil life. How would you like an appointment in the regular army?" He replied, "You could not please me better." And when his commission as Captain in the Fourth Regular Cavalry was sent to the care of Senator Harlan, and by him handed to Drummond, he said: "Senator, I had rather have that commission than the one you hold as U. S. Senator." He was soon in the active duties of his command, and engaged in the realities of war. He served gallantly to the end. During the second year of the war he was made Lieutenant-Colonel of an Iowa Cavalry Regiment, was with it for several months, when he returned voluntarily to his old Regiment in the regular service. At the battle of Five Forks, when Grant was reaching out to strike the Richmond and Danville railroad, which was Lee's only remaining line of supplies or retreat, Drummond fell just at the close of the engagement. This was really the last engagement of the war that could be called a battle. A few weeks after, as Sherman's army was *en route* from Raleigh to Washington, it moved in the vicinity of the Five Forks battle-ground. As I was riding with an

Illinois officer, talking of the close of the war and the prospects of getting home, we halted for a moment at Dinwiddie Court House, not far from Five Forks. We knew it to be an old historic town, and as the fence of the cemetery was down we turned in to look at some of the old monuments. There were not only old monuments, but hundreds of new made graves of both Union and Confederate dead. The first name that caught my eye was that of Col. Tom Drummond. I had never seen him after the adjournment of the Seventh General Assembly. I did not know until then that he had fallen, and his form stood before my imagination, and is imprinted on my memory to-day. The intrepid Drummond was a striking type of the heroism of his day. It seems to me that the people of Vinton should erect a tablet to his memory in the institution which his efforts secured to that city. It would be a just recognition of his services to the city and of his career as a soldier. Emerson has said: "The people who forget the sacrifices of their soldiers, will have to fight their battles over again."

Before passing from the mention of names to which future successes have given a personal interest, I may say, that the Private Secretary of the Governor was Thomas F. Withrow. The Secretary of the Senate was George E. Spencer, and the Clerk of the House was Wm. P. Hepburn.

Three or four incidents of the session and I have done. It was a working Assembly. Besides many other statutes which have become part of the Code of Iowa, it passed the State Banking Law, under which a complete and safe system of State Banks were organized and operated, until superseded by the National Banking system. It passed a school law, which with some modifications, constitutes our present school system.

The Chaplaincy of the House was performed by all the ministers of the city gratuitously. I think, however, at the close of the session a small appropriation was made for Chaplain service, which they divided between them. One day a minister by the name of Shinn, who had formerly lived in Iowa, but was then a citizen of Nebraska, happened in the House at the hour of opening. The Speaker invited him to make the opening prayer. It was a unique and original prayer. After the usual opening invocation it consisted of the following single sentence, "Bless this grand, young State with righteous laws, with an undefiled religion, with good women, true men, pure water and a sound currency." There was more than a ripple of approval when he closed. The old man, I was told afterward, knew the value of a sound currency.

We had some experience with the modern "Fillibuster." In the course of the session the House passed a Registry Bill. It was made a partisan question—supported by the Republicans and opposed by the Democrats. After a long discussion of its merits the "previous question" was ordered. There was, during that session, a railing extending across the Chamber of the House about two-thirds of the distance from the front of the Speaker's desk to the rear wall. Inside of the railing were the seats of the members, and it was called the floor of the House. Back of the railing was the lobby. When we finally reached the point that the vote was to be taken on the bill, Mahoney rose and said in his impressive manner, that it was the duty of the Democrats to let the Republicans furnish their own quorum to pass this infamous measure. Upon this suggestion all our Democratic friends, except one, sprang over the railing into the lobby. The one exception was E. R.

Guiberson, of Madison county. He sat, with Jeffersonian simplicity, smoking an old clay pipe, and seemed perfectly indifferent to the whole proceeding. I talked with him afterwards about it; for I was on very good terms with him, and he was really a very nice, sensible old man. He said he was too old to play the boy. And then he went on to give his reasons for his course; and I have thought many times since that he touched the very core of the folly of the Fillibuster in politics. He said: "I would never engage in dilatory tactics unless there was an attempt on the part of the majority to stifle debate. But when a question has been fairly debated, so far as I am concerned, I will let the majority rule, certifying my opposition by my vote. This, putting it on no higher ground, I think is good politics. If this is a bad measure, as I think it is, and you people pass it, it will help us beat you in the next election, and that is just what we want. But if it should prove a good measure we will have made great fools of ourselves in fillibustering to defeat it." The old man stated the whole philosophy of the situation.

I have spoken briefly and admiringly of Mr. Speaker Shelledy. The old gentleman was a very grave and serious looking man, and yet he had a vein of humor in his nature. There was a member of the House who was anxious to make himself solid with his constituency by playing the role of an economist. He frequently criticised the House for its long debates, figuring out how much of the people's money was wasted by an hour's debate. At one time he criticised the Speaker for allowing too much latitude in discussions.

On the last night of the session, which by the way was continued all night, the House had got along with business, and was awaiting the Enrollment of Bills. In the lull the Speaker thought there was a little chance for fun, so he called this gentleman to the Chair. He walked up and took the gavel with an air which implied that there had been a good deal of time fooled away, now we will proceed to business. He had scarcely squared himself in the chair, when a member rose to a question of personal privilege. He succeeded in getting about a dozen words, when Ed Wright, who never allowed a member to wriggle around long when out of order, interposed with the point of order that the gentleman's remarks failed to disclose that he was speaking to a question of privilege. In an instant another member was on his feet in defense of his right to speak, another was up in defense of the point of order, whilst a third was insisting that the Chair should decide the point of order. So for the next half hour Bedlam was turned loose. Finally the Committee on Enrolled Bills was ready to report, when the Speaker took the gavel and order was restored.

The day of adjournment found the Des Moines river bank full of water. A small steam boat had come up the river and was lying at the so-called Point. In the afternoon it moved down the river carrying all the members from the Southeast portion of the State and those living near the Mississippi even to the Northeast corner of the State, as they could reach their homes easier and quicker by going to Keokuk and up the Mississippi, than by traveling all the way across the State in a mud wagon. I stood on the bank and waved them adieu as they swarmed like bees upon the deck of that little steamboat. Since undertaking to prepare for this occasion I have tried to learn how many of the one hundred and fifty members of the Seventh General Assembly are now living. This has been an impossible undertaking,

but from such inquiry as I have made, I do not believe more than twenty are on this side of the Great Beyond. And standing in your presence this evening I can appreciate the story told of the old monk who had inhabited his monastery for more than a generation; had seen its inmates come, and lingering for a time, pass out to the silent city of the dead, until the pictures which had been preserved of each inmate covered the dark walls of his cavernous home, when in his loneliness he exclaimed, "*Men are but shadows, and their pictures are the reality.*"

Music, "Home Sweet Home," quartette.

Address by Dr. Yeomans, of Charles City, "Recollections of the Fifth General Assembly."

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen—As the index upon the dial plate of time by its slow, but unceasing revolutions measures off the days, months, and years as they come and go, impulses are quickened, energies intensified, giving birth to new ideas which lead on to continuous progress. These evolutionary developments are oft times so slow in maturing that we may not readily discern them except as we extend our observations over a considerable period, and compare conditions at remote intervals.

The Iowa youth of to-day, enjoying by inheritance the golden privileges and opportunities secured to them, can scarcely appreciate the wonderful progress in all that constitutes civilization in our own State history. I count it a great privilege to have been a witness of every step in the advance of Iowa from the time she was first christened, fifty-four years ago. There were then (as per census of 1836) fourteen organized counties, containing 10,500 people. Now there are ninety-nine counties and a population of 2,000,000. Then Fairfield was a frontier town of embryonic proportions upon the very borders of the Indian Territory, known as the Black-Hawk Purchase. Then Des Moines, now the State Capital, was a far away Indian Agency and Military post. Then all that was known of our western borders and most of the interior was derived from the few hunters and trappers who had penetrated the wilderness in their adventurous pursuits. Our school-houses, like angels' visits, few and far between, were log cabins, where upon rude benches and stools, the youth, by the liberal application of the birch twig, were initiated into the rudiments of reading, spelling, writing and arithmetic, for six days in the week, and where the gospel was dispensed on the seventh. We had no mills in those days save such as were extemporized by chiseling out a concavity in the top of a stump with an old fashioned well sweep attachment from the upper end of which was suspended a long pestle with which the grinding was done. I fancy it was after the pattern of those mentioned in the old book of which it is said two women shall be grinding at the mill, "the one shall be taken and the other left." Another step in development gave us the horse mill at which the man having grain to grind furnished the horse power and did the work while it was said the owner of the mill claimed all the grain for toll, and a wrestling match determined the ownership of the bags. To one who has looked upon our State as it came from the original nomadic owners of little over half a century ago, and who is permitted to survey the scene to-day, with our railroads and telegraph lines permeating all our counties with a mighty net-

work of steel, and bringing all points into direct connection with every part of the civilized world, our churches, our schools, our cities and villages, our factories, our broad farms, happy homes, our immense resources and universal prosperity, it seems almost like the fabulous transformations of Aladdin's lamp, and leads one to inquire upon whom shall the honor fall for these grand results.

In approaching the city of Des Moines the visitor catches a glimpse, while miles away, of the towering dome of the Capitol building, and as the sun lights up with a golden sheen its gilded covering, he is impressed with the magnificence of this grand edifice. As he draws nearer and takes in its architectural beauty and fine proportions; he is filled with pride in the thought that this is our building, in which every citizen in the State has a joint interest. These feelings are intensified as he enters the spacious rotunda, the legislative halls and State offices, finding everywhere beauty, elegance and adornment worthy a great State. If his examination ends here it will be very incomplete; deep down below the surface is a subterranean region with an intricate system of labyrinthian aisles and corridors crossing, paralleling and ramifying like the mysterious catacombs of ancient Rome. These are flanked by walls of huge blocks of granite upon which the great building is planted, and but for the solidity and firmness of this foundation the whole structure would fall into a chaotic mass of ruins. While I have looked upon this grand triumph of architectural and mechanical skill as a land-mark upon the highway of Iowa progress, it has seemed to me to fitly typify the work of two generations in moulding our State policy, and building and perfecting our State government upon such a basis as would yield the results so apparent in the development and progress of our State. The fathers planted the seed whose exuberant fruitage blesses all our people to-day. They gave us a constitution and code of laws which protect rich and poor alike in all their rights, and secure to all civil and religious freedom. They gave us our school system enabling us to plant a school house on every hill top. Metaphorically speaking, they went into the quarry and with their brawny arms brought forth the huge rough ashler, they chiseled off the sharp angularities, applied the plumb, the square and the level until they were in due form and proper shape for the builder's use. They planted these deep down upon the bed rock, they cemented them firmly together, piled them up tier upon tier until there was a foundation broad, deep and enduring as the everlasting hills.

When the infirmities of age came upon them they said to the boys, now take our places, complete the temple upon the foundation we have provided for you, build for the oncoming generations, make it massive and commodious; adorn and beautify it with the choicest contributions of art, science and skill, so that when the time shall come for you to surrender your trust to those who may follow, as we now surrender ours to you, you may merit and receive the verdict of well done. Surely this verdict has been already rendered, the car of progress has rolled steadily onward. Monuments upon every hand that will outlast sculptured marble, bear testimony to the fact that from the very beginning to the present time our public affairs have been managed with wisdom, skill and loyal devotion to State and Nation.

In considering men I am sure we have no desire to make invidious distinctions, nor to pose as martyrs appealing for credit or sympathy on

account of the perils, trials and hardships of early days. I know not what your experience may have been, but I am firmly persuaded that the current stories of early adventures in Iowa are largely mythical. I am certain that the most enjoyable of my seventy years were those spent on the Iowa frontier. We would not overestimate the work of the pioneer, or undervalue that of his successor.

We have a laudable pride in the triumph of all our public men who have achieved an honorable success. I do not think we can be charged with egotism or too large a measure of the *esprit du corps* if we affirm that of all the distinguished gentlemen who have so ably filled the executive chair of Iowa the names of the first three, Ansel Briggs, Stephen Hempstead, James W. Grimes, will lose nothing by a comparison with any triumvirate you may select from the list.

We have reason to be justly proud of our judiciary. The decisions of our highest courts have been so uniformly characterized by integrity and a profound knowledge of law as to command the respect and elicit the commendation of the ablest jurists of the land, and of all the number who have been connected with this department it is safe to say that none have held the scales more nicely adjusted, presided with greater dignity, or rendered decisions more nearly in accord with their conscientious convictions of the requirements of law and equity than Charles Mason and Joseph Williams, of pioneer times.

Iowa has been peculiarly fortunate in her Congressional representation, scarcely a single mistake has been made, surely none that can be laid at the door of the pioneer. Our Territorial Delegates were W. W. Chapman and A. C. Dodge; the former was an able man, vigilant in guarding the interests of the young Territory. Our first four Senators were A. C. Dodge, Geo. W. Jones, James Harlan, and James W. Grimes, all of whom acquired a national reputation and high rank with the oldest and ablest of American statesmen.

Among our early Representatives were S. C. Hastings, Shepard Leffler, Wm. Thompson, Bernhart Henn and Jno. P. Cook, all able, active, practical men who were untiring in looking after the interests of our State.

Of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa it is only necessary to mention a few names as a fair sample of the whole number who blazed the way for the oncoming multitudes that were to develop the resources of our great State.

Among the earliest were: Jesse B. Browne, Arthur Inghram, G. S. Bailey, Warner Lewis, James Hall, James W. Grimes, George Hepner, J. M. Clark, S. C. Hastings, Stephen Hempstead, Hawkins Taylor, Laurel Summers.

A large majority of these men have finished their labors and gone to their final rest. I met Mr. Chapman at Portland, Oregon, about seven years since and found him with whitened locks and greatly changed in appearance, but with mental vigor unabated, still actively engaged in the practice of law. I also met, at nearly the same time, Col. Wm. Thompson, at Bismarck, Dakota, comfortably enjoying the emoluments of a retired officer of the United States Army; both these gentlemen were as enthusiastic in their expressions of admiration for Iowa as they were forty years before when actively engaged in her service. If either of them have passed away since I have not heard it.

James Harlan still lives in the full vigor of mature years, abounding in good works, loved and revered most by those who know him best.

I need not remind you that Geo. W. Jones is still spared to be an honored and welcomed guest at any point in Iowa he may chance to visit. I am sure we all rejoice that he is with us to-day to join us in congratulations at our great prosperity, so largely due to his labors in the early days.

Hawkins Taylor is still in active service, and has honored this association with his presence and edified all with his reminiscences. I believe S. C. Hastings, G. S. Baily, and possibly others, still live.

General A. C. Dodge joined the silent majority several years since, honored and mourned by the entire people of Iowa. I knew him well during nearly all the years of his public service, and while for many years I differed with him in politics I am glad of this opportunity to pay a tribute to his worth and his merit. He was one of God's noblemen, pure, generous, honorable, chivalrous, devoted always to his friends and the State he loved so well. Many of the early settlers would have lost their homes but for his voluntary aid which enabled them to secure their claims. I am glad to know that his mantle has fallen on a worthy son who gives promise of reflecting credit upon the name of his honored father.

James W. Grimes gave the best years of his life to the service of the State, and when he passed away all our people realized that one of the most brilliant lights in the galaxy of Iowa statesmen had gone out. In all his public positions he exemplified the fact that he had himself given heed to the admonition he gave the people of Iowa in his inaugural address, "Be strong and quit yourselves like men."

The Fifth General Assembly met at a critical period in the history of the State. The preceding election had resulted in a political revolution, placing in power a new party that was destined to have uninterrupted control of the machinery of the State government for three decades. Our State Capitol had been for two years on a peripatetic journey over the prairies seeking a central resting place, and where it would finally anchor was an enigma no man could solve. All our enterprises and industries were struggling under the incubus of general stagnation. There was a great scarcity of money. All values were reduced to the smallest minimum, and labor could scarce find employment. Our railroad schemes had hardly passed beyond the stage of paper projects, their stocks were without marketable value, our farmers, lacking means of transportation, were literally banished from the markets of the world. The single act of Congress passed in the spring of 1855 making a magnificent grant of land to the State of Iowa to aid in the completion of her railroads was the magic wand that lifted the clouds that hung so heavily over us and permitted an immediate advance all along the line. It was the dawning of a new and progressive era of prosperity far reaching and unending in its beneficent results. Instead of being a drug in the market our stocks were now eagerly sought and our roads were pushed to completion as rapidly as men and money could accomplish the work. Capital now flowed into the State without stint or measure for investment. Emigrants from all parts of the country crowded all our thoroughfares seeking homes upon our fertile plains. The farmer found a ready market for his products and every enterprise and branch of trade felt the impulse of the flood tide. We should be wanting in gratitude if we failed to remember

and appreciate the grand work of our members of Congress who secured for Iowa this priceless boon.

In the Fifth General Assembly, of which I had the honor of being a member, there was a combination of men rarely equaled for legislative ability, many of whom were honored with important positions in after years. The President of the Senate was Marturin L. Fisher, a thorough gentleman of the old school, who presided with dignity, courtesy and strict impartiality. P. B. Rankin was Secretary. Among the more prominent Senators, were James M. Love, who was modest and unassuming, yet possessed of such sterling worth and profound knowledge as to command recognition as a wise leader; his long and honorable career as a Judge of the United States District Court, has but confirmed the good opinion that was then entertained concerning him.

William F. Coolbaugh and Milton D. Browning, both of Burlington, had perhaps more to do with shaping and perfecting legislation than any other members; both were good debaters, familiar with legislative methods, and both commanded respect and confidence from all. Mr. Browning was a leading member of the Iowa bar, and Mr. Coolbaugh was the acknowledged head of the financiers of the State; it was his personal guarantee that secured the sale of the first bonds issued by the State. His untimely death at the foot of the monument of his life-long friend, Stephen A. Douglas, filled the whole State with sadness. Another and notable and useful Senator was Alvin Saunders, then a merchant of Mt. Pleasant, since made Governor of Nebraska Territory, and elected to the United States Senate. Among others were the familiar names of Isaac M. Preston, John G. Shields, Elisha F. Clark, John R. Needham, George W. Lucas, Jas. D. Test, Nathan Udel, Dan'l Anderson, and W. A. Thurston, all active and useful members.

The Speaker's gavel in the House was wielded by Reuben Noble; he was then in his prime, and I don't know that he has yet passed that stage; he was a good parliamentarian, a courteous gentleman, a fine talker and a popular presiding officer. The Chief Clerk was Charles C. Nourse, well known in this city and throughout the State. The membership was made up largely of hard workers. Probably the most conspicuous personage upon the floor of the House was Ben M. Samuels, of Duquque. He was a man of fine physique, a thorough gentleman, a good lawyer, an entertaining and forcible speaker, and possessed in large measure of the genial, social, and hospitable traits of the old Virginia families with whom his boyhood days were spent. Samuel J. Russell, of Washington, is remembered as one with whom it was dangerous to measure swords in debate; he was sharp, quick, and incisive, always ready to receive blows and prompt to respond. He was always at his post of duty, and took an active part in all measures of legislation.

Samuel McFarland, of Mount Pleasant, was a quiet and dignified member, with pronounced views on all questions of legislation; his influence in promoting all that gave promise of securing the public weal was second to no one. He fell at the post of duty and honor gallantly defending the old flag that represents all that is great, grand and glorious in our nation's history, thus adding one more to the many calamities the late Rebellion inflicted upon Iowa.

Joshua Tracey, of Burlington, was then a young lawyer who gave abun-

dant indications of his subsequent brilliant career at the bar and upon the bench.

P. Gad Bryan was one of the most popular members, recognized then as an able lawyer, a good speaker, the prince of wags and a royal good fellow.

There were many others equally worthy of special mention. Bronson, Albright, Sargent, Coffin, Williams, Clark, Neal, Lyon, McCall, Baldwin, Jackson, indeed the entire list was made up of active, working members, worthy of being remembered by the people of Iowa. There was a remarkable absence of demagogues, cranks, bores, or other obstructive nuisances. All seemed animated by the single purpose of accomplishing all the good possible within the time allotted for the session. Not a single incident occurred to mar the harmony, or disturb the good feeling that existed between all the members.

The most noticeable events of the session of the Fifth General Assembly were: (1) The valedictory and retirement of Stephen Hempstead, the last Democratic Governor until the present incumbent was installed. (2) The inauguration of James W. Grimes. (3) The election of James Harlan to succeed General A. C. Dodge in the United States Senate. (4) The removal of the Capitol from Iowa City to Des Moines. (5) The enactment of the first prohibitory liquor law in Iowa, most ably championed by its author, Dr. Amos Witter, of Cedar. (6) The act of the special session for accepting the munificent land grant made to the State for completing our railroads and to apportion the same to the various trunk lines. No legislation from the earliest times to the present has given such an impetus to Iowa progress as that which made this donation available in the construction of our most important roads. (7) Memorial to Congress for a repeal of the duty on sugar and molasses. (8) Memorial in favor of the Pacific railroad.

At the regular and special sessions there were passed two hundred and nineteen acts, forty-eight joint resolutions, and eleven memorials.

The legal profession has been a potent factor in Iowa progress. Upon the members of the bar has largely devolved the duty of formulating constitutions and statutes for the protection and security of our people in their rights and privileges. Fortunately there has been at no stage of our history a lack of the highest order of talent to meet this demand upon them for the public good. Upon the roster of the bar in pioneer days were the historic names of Grimes & Starr, Rorer, Browning, J. C. Hall, Mills, Wright & Knapp, Augustus Hall, Reed & Johnson, Judge Grant, Samuels, Folsom, Leffingwell, Wilson, Carleton, Murdock, Eastman, Kinney, Dillon, Noble, Townsend, Olney, Seyers, Cook, Casady, Smythe, Hendershott, and a host of others, all competent to appear before the highest court in America.

If we were to cast a ballot for the most distinguished orator of Iowa, I am quite sure the vote would be overwhelmingly in favor of the silver tongued Henry W. Starr, of pioneer days.

There is one name that I have but barely mentioned for the reason that it is one difficult to classify—it may be justly claimed by two generations. If we speak of George G. Wright as a pioneer, the youngster of to-day will retort, why he is one of the boys, a fellow student with us, gleaning day by day for some scrap of knowledge that he has not yet mastered.

For the last forty years no man in Iowa could deliver a more profound opinion upon any intricate question of jurisprudence, or make an abler

address upon any subject of scientific research than he. He is one of the few men who, in a long and active career in public life has commanded the respect, confidence and esteem of all parties and all classes, the one of all others upon whom the people of Iowa have delighted to bestow the highest honors within their gift. As Legislator, Senator, Judge, Attorney or Citizen, he has proven himself of sufficient amplitude to fill any position with honor and credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the State.

While we render this merited tribute to our worthy colleague, let us be just as well as generous, and keep in mind that there are exceptions in all general rules. Fortunately, instead of militating against the rule these exceptions generally add confirmation to it.

As with all fine pictures there is an obverse side to this one. With all the Judge's mental traits there was connected a good degree of versatility; probably he didn't quite measure up with Judge Jo. Williams in this regard, but he certainly attained a fair altitude on this line.

It is a matter of history that once upon a time there was a somewhat exciting contest for Congressional honors, the chief figures in the ring being George G. Wright and Bernhart Henn, and it was said of that contest, that of all the public men in Iowa (and the woods were full of them) there was but one man that could make us as poor a stump speech as Judge Wright, and that one exception was Mr. Henn, his competitor, who bore away the honors of the campaign. Viewing the subject as I then did from the standpoint of an old timer I shared in this opinion so far as it related to the Judge's efforts. The truth may as well be now confessed that we regarded the Judge with grave suspicion, we looked upon him as the leader, the prime mover, the avuncular courier, as it were, of that mighty host of political reformers that came down upon us about that time like the locusts of Egypt, intent upon turning the world upside down and, as we thought, to drive us out from the banqueting halls of our ancestors with empty larders, to batten upon the barren moor of disappointed hopes and blighted ambitions. As I have grown in years I am glad to say I have become more conservative and as I look back upon my efforts in the good old days to size up the Judge and take his measure I realize that I looked through a party glass darkly.

In conclusion, Fellow Pioneers, I have only to say that the silver locks so abundant before me are like the golden leaves of autumn, reminders to us that the season for active work has passed. There has, in these latter days, come upon the stage of action a new generation, a mighty throng; while we are old and feeble they are young, strong and vigorous, they are crowding us to the wall with a force as irresistible as that of the avalanche that thunders down the mountain side. Whether we will or no, we must yield to the inevitable and submit to the application of that great law of Nature which ordains the survival of the fittest. We may linger yet a little time on the border line, and find consolation in giving the boys the benefit of our counsel and experience, in feasting upon the memories of a glorious past, waiting with philosophic resignation for that call that shall summon us to enter upon the glorious inheritance that we trust awaits us beyond the river.

Poem by Rev. Dr. Percival.

REV. DR. PERCIVAL: *Mr. President*—In the year 1828, which has been mentioned here before to-day as a great epoch in the history of Iowa, I was

a school boy. I was going to speak of myself as an aged man, but after what I have said about age, you will see that is wrong; but as I had the misfortune to be born a poet, or at least a rhymster, at that early age I had written a poem upon "Woman's Love." I was too young to know anything about that sentiment, except as I learned it from my mother. The only couplet I recollect is having mentioned woman's love as the sweetest flower that blooms for man. I said, it will bloom as sweetly in Iowa's soil as in the garden of a Persian Prince. I suppose you will recognize that as entirely orthodox in everything excepting name, but you will find people coming from the east find it hard to pronounce that name right. Those east pronounce the last syllable somewhat hard, but no one then said Iowa as I did when I was sixteen. I do not flatter myself that any one here knows anything about my poetry. If they do, they know I am fond of drawing parallels, and in the hasty preparation of this poem—all except a few stanzas of the last, which was written a few months ago—I have endeavored to draw a parallel between Numa Pompilius and the Iowa Law-Makers. In other words, the second emperor of Rome as compared with the early Law-Makers.

A POEM.

BY THE REV. C. S. PERCIVAL, PH.D.

When pious Numa, second king of Rome,
To the rude throne of Romulus had come,
He found his people warlike, fierce and wild,
By lust of conquest and power beguiled;
And set himself a code of laws to frame
And pious rites their lawlessness to tame;
That, while his valor he would not decrease,
Their minds and manners by the arts of peace
He hoped to raise, refine and disengage
From the coarse thralldom of an iron age.

The nymph Ederia to him was sent
By Jove Supreme, with the divine intent,
That she should fill his soul with Wisdom's light,
To guide his subjects in the paths of right,
Within a sacred grove, this beauteous nymph,
Hard by a fount whose radiant, sparkling lymph
Seemed but the symbol of her radiant thought—
He often met and by her love was taught
To lay a guiding hand upon the springs
Of human conduct—thus the wanderings
Of fiery multitudes to hold in check,
And make their wills subservient to his beck.
His senators, the wisest of the realm,
Who, in the Ship of State, stood at the helm,

From him had learned the stately vessel's force;
 And how to guide her in her onward course,
 Both how and when to trim her ready sails
 To catch the impulse of all prosperous gales;
 Or, if afar they heard the storm-waves roar,
 They learned of him to hug the sheltering shore.

Thus from the seeds of piety and law,
 More rapid growth the heathen world ne'er saw.
 Letters began their precious fruit to bear,
 And arts, beneath the ruler's fostering care,
 Began to show their captivating charms,
 Which cannot flourish 'mid the clash of arms.
 Janus, the god who ruled the opening year,
 Was, by the royal Numa, held most dear.
 To him he built a high and sacred fane,
 Whose gates inspired should indicate the reign
 Of peace or war. When open, Mars went forth
 Spreading destruction o'er the blood-stained earth.
 When shut, he was enclosed within, and peace
 Had blessed the earth and bidden carnage cease.
 Such was the influence that Numa swayed —
 So lovingly that influence was obeyed —
 That through full three and forty prosperous years,
 Shut were the gates of Janus; and the ears
 Of toiling citizens were never pained
 By war's alarms while pious Numa reigned.

This Pioneer Law-Maker in the days
 Of early Rome, all history loves to praise.
 And in this presence I the picture place,
 The likeness and the unlikeness here to trace
 Between the task of Numa and your own —
 The task which an admiring world has known —
 O, Pioneer Law-Makers of a State,
 In all that men call greatness, truly great!

As when to Rome the good King Numa came,
 He found a State with little but a name,
 Waiting for one to come with plastic hand
 To mould from that chaotic mass a grand,
 Consistent, noble and harmonious whole,
 And into this grand body breathe a soul
 To make of it a living, moving power;
 Such was your task when, in a fortunate hour,
 You came to Iowa, and here essayed
 To build a State, whose deep foundations laid
 In justice, equity, religion, law,
 Should stand through happy ages Rome ne'er saw.

But ah! the men with whom you had to build,
 How unlike those with whom young Rome was filled!

Brave, yet unsoiled in war, cultured, yet strong
 In body as in mind. Haters of wrong,
 Yet merciful, as taught by One who came
 To save a fallen world from sin and shame.
 Religious from their childhood, with no need
 To learn of you a formal rite or creed;
 Such were the men with whom you reared a State,
 Worthy, as Rome ne'er was, the name of great,
 And such the men to whom you hand it down,
 For decoration with the triple crown
 Of industry, religion, liberty,
 'Through coming ages, great and wise and free.

You, too, had aid from some high source divine,
 If there is truth embodied in the line,
Vox populi, vox Dei. Then what power
 Was yours, in place of Rome's nyphean dower,
 Essaying all your soul with light to fill?
 Ah! *your* Egeria was the People's Will!
 'Twas their diploma gave to you the right
 Our constitution and our laws t' indite.
 That will you followed; or, if unexpressed,
 You took the course sound judgment deemed the best.
 Or, if at times that will was left confused,
 By party spirit, crossed, preplexed, abused;
 By your Egeria in that mood ne'er taught,
 You waited for "the sober second thought."

When Numa died, Egeria pined away,
 And saw no more the light of Rome's young day.
 But when our latest Pioneer has gone,
 The People's Will, immortal, shall live on,
 Giving the State new institutions wise—
 For Iowa's Egeria never dies!

'Twas said by one deemed wise, "If I could write
 The people's songs, I'd care not who indite
 The people's laws." If this wise saw be true,
 To one that could do both what praise were due!
 And yet our ranks have furnished men of mark,
 In both those lines of intellectual work.
 Lamented Fulton, young as pioneer,
 So late as at your recent gathering here,
 Sang of the makers of our earliest laws
 In strains that called forth merited applause.
 Alas for us! that, ere this welcome day,
 A higher call has summoned him away,
 Grief 'tis for us, but joy for him. His song
 Now wakes the plaudits of a happier throng.

And one among the earliest of your band,
 Helping to Statehood, this our prairie land,

Wrote, as a motto for its coat of arms,
A couplet which the Iowa spirit warms;
And which, if no objection you shall raise,
I'll reproduce in modest paraphrase;
Showing by way of light, concluding strain,
What liberties we prize what rights maintain.

COL. W. S. DUNGAN: *Mr. President*—The reverend gentleman has shown such excellent qualifications for being a Pioneer, that I move you that he be elected an honorary member of this Association, and our Poet Laureate.

The motion was carried unanimously.

DR. PERCIVAL: I thank you for the honor you have done me. I think it is even more of an honor than to have been invited to read this poem. I do not know but that I would prefer to be Poet Laureate of this Pioneer Law-Makers' Association than the poet laureate of England.

After a song by the choir, the meeting adjourned until 9:30 A. M., February 11, 1892.

Y. M. C. A. BUILDING, February 11, 1892.

The meeting was called to order by Judge Wright.

Prayer by Rev. John Webb, of Des Moines:

"Oh Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth. We thank Thee for that protecting care that has been about these grand and noble men that have been called upon by the free people of Iowa to meet at the Capital biennially to enact laws for the government of this commonwealth, for the last forty-five years. We are glad that so many of them are spared to meet at this time, and while their hair and beards are growing gray, we are glad for that degree of sprightliness and vigor that is manifest among them. And while their sun is sinking behind the western hills, we trust it is soon to rise and shine in eternal youth, in a grander and brighter world than this. They have done their work and done it well. May their sons be worthy such noble sires. As they fall, one here and another there, may they fall in sight of that blessed land where none ever grow old, or the eye ever grows dim, or any say, "I am sick." Many of their associates have already been called to meet the Judge of the whole earth. May each one have his work done and done to stand in the great judgment day, and unto Thee we will ascribe all honor, praise, and glory, now and ever more, Amen.

Song by quartette.

JUDGE ROWELL: I move that the matter of changing the name of this Association be referred to the Committee on Resolutions to report on that question.

Motion seconded and carried.

THE CHAIR: The next thing in order will be an address from our most excellent friend General Eaton, of Osage, on "Recollections of the Third General Assembly."

Mr. Eaton:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen—Confining myself, chiefly, to the House of 1850–51, I will say, that Crawford, Gildea and I, were elected from the Dubuque district, which extended to the Des Moines Valley, and to the north boundary of the State, except the Turkey River country. The only public conveyance from Delhi to Iowa City, was through Dubuque, which route I should have taken and drawn pay for three hundred miles; but I walked across the country and charged for one hundred and fifty miles. By so doing I saved the State fifteen dollars and myself about half as much. We were allowed by the constitution, two dollars per day for the first fifty days and one dollar per day for the remainder of the session, and two dollars for every twenty miles travel in going to and returning from the place of meeting, on the most usual route. We remained in session sixty-six days. I boarded at Haverstrands, and roomed with Goodenow, Gildea and Fitzpatric.

We organized with George Temple, Speaker; C. C. Rockwell, Clerk; J. Smith Houton, Assistant Clerk; James B. Bower, Enrolling Clerk, and John Fitzpatrick, Sergeant-at-Arms. Clark, Rector and Miller appeared as delegates from Southwestern Iowa, and were admitted. The Message of Gov. Briggs was received; also the Inaugural of Gov. Hempstead. Messrs. Temple, Summers, Crawford, Harbour, Babbitt, Bunker, Updegraff, E. S. McCulloch, and Reuben Riggs had been members of Iowa legislatures. These, with some other early settlers, who were among Iowa's most able men, were made leaders, as they should have been.

If I name but a single committee-man, it will be for the want of space, as every member was upon several committees. Some, not named by me, or shown by the record to have been active members, were among our best workers.

The revised Code of laws was about as perfect as Lock's Constitution, but what had we to do with it? was the question; and Senators appeared to be asking the same question, as they read a small portion of it twice, and reported it to the House. Many motions were made and committees appointed. The Clerk was ordered to read it, and did so, till we were all tired, when it was referred to the proper committees, and a sufficient number of copies printed, as should have been done at the beginning of the session.

A joint resolution from the Senate, requesting the services of Mason and Woodward, "in explanation of the new Code," was referred to the Judiciary Committee, and reported upon adversely. Said report was concurred in because we supposed they were to explain only their language. They were, finally, invited to meet with us, and did so, giving us much valuable information, as they were advanced thinkers and able lawyers.

Committee on Elections—Gambel. Mr. Gambel was very able, as shown by his reports; especially his report on printing.

Engrossed Bills—Summers and Dibble.

Enrolled Bills—Harper and Parvin, with Salmon and Gambel the last part of the session. Summers and Harper were specially fitted for those duties, besides being in harmony with the Speaker.

Expenditures—Robinson, I. M. Preston, Taylor, Major and Gibson.

County and Township Organization—I. M. Preston.

Reapportionment of the State into Representative and Senatorial Districts—One for each Senatorial District, with Crawford as Chairman.

Agriculture—Harper, Thompson, Jacobs and Haun. Mr. Haun was not made Chairman till about the middle of the session, when he made a report so valuable that fifteen thousand copies were ordered printed.

Block of Marble—Harbour, Negus and Parvin.

Federal Relations—Summers, Flint, Hamill and P. Wilson. This was a leading committee, as many questions of national importance came before it.

Ways and Means—Babbitt, Robinson, Gildea, E. S. McCulloch and Price.

Judiciary—Folsom, I. M. Preston, Negus, Thompson and Crawford.

Mr. Folsom was one of Iowa's best lawyers, able and learned, and an inveterate worker. He did most of the work of his committee, and made nearly every report.

The last two committees had the principal charge of that which became Part One, Titles I, II, and III, of the Code. I worked for the county judge system, but soon found it was not adapted to our then sparsely settled country.

Claims—Crawford. We Dubuquers presented Mr. Crawford's name for Speaker, but soon arranged matters with Temple's friends so as to obtain the position of Sergeant-at-Arms for our own friend, John Fitzpatrick, of Dubuque. R. R. Harbour was the chief competitor against Speaker Temple.

Roads and Highways—Dibble. This was a very important committee. Like that of County and Township Organization, it had charge of matters that reached the personal interest of more men and families, than most other committees, and there was no better man to manage them than C. B. Dibble. There was much effort to establish a County Supervisor system of roads. I opposed the change. I would now, however, create a County Supervisor to do the work that District Supervisors cannot do.

Incorporations—Negus, Summers, Gildea, and Hamill. This was but a branch of the Judiciary; and as events have manifested themselves, it came very near being the trunk. It will not be necessary for me to say that Charles Negus was able, and honest, and brave. His actions show that. His report upon ferry charters and his legislative acts confirm it. Our Constitution said that "Corporations shall not be created in this State by special laws, except for particular municipal purposes;" and as many such bills were being presented, I introduced a resolution, the first of the session, to test the question, which was referred to the Committee on Judiciary; also a resolution in the case of Marcus H. Hays; that the Committee on Incorporations report whether the same will or will not be according to the Constitution. In the case of the Muscatine, Washington, and Oskaloosa Road and Bridge Company, Mr. Negus moved that "the Legislature shall have power to repeal this Act whenever it shall deem proper." The only members voting in the affirmative were Babbitt, Eaton, Gibson, Major, Negus, Summers and Wyckoff. On the passage of the Burlington and Mount Pleasant Plank Road Company's right-of-way, there were but three negatives; Babbitt, Eaton and Negus. They said we were cranks, and I thought we must be, as a very large majority of the House were Democrats, and I voted for most of those bills, but Negus did not.

When some of these reached Gov. Hempstead he vetoed them. I continued to vote for them while a majority of our members voted against them.

Public Buildings—Parvin. His report upon public buildings included the question of the removal of the Capital, and the control of the public buildings at Iowa City. These questions were handled in a plain, practical, business-like manner that settled the matter satisfactorily.

Code Amendment Committee—Babbitt and Thompson, with Crawford for the first part of the session, and Haun for the remainder. This was *the* working committee. There were many leaders of branches of the work, but as general leaders of that House, I think Babbitt and Summers came nearer than any others. I need not speak of John Thompson, only to say that I rank him with Folsom, I. M. Preston and Negus.

Military Affairs—Harbour, Price, Bunker, T. McCulloch and Wyckoff, together with that memento of the chivalry of Iowa, as embodied in the armour of *Don Alfonzo Perez*, an Hidalgo, who after achieving his laurels of knighthood upon the mountain plains of Granada, surrendered to the vanquishing arms of Iowa, amid the mountain passes of the Cerro Gordo. Gov. Briggs had recommended a reorganization of the militia, and Gov. Hempstead was in love with the idea. He was a brilliant man and wanted a brilliant staff and equipage. We held an evening session and debated the question. Captain Price made his celebrated report, which, on motion of Lieut.-Gen. Harbour, was softly and silently laid upon the table; when, without a fife or a drum, we retired.

Internal Improvements—Harbour, I. M. Preston, Crawford, Babbitt and Thompson. I will not attempt to state all that resulted from the labors of this committee, but I will say that the common law system of pleading, and of conveyancing, the complete record, and many of the relations of husband and wife were yielding to more rational thought.

The first conception of a railroad westward from the upper Mississippi, manifested itself in a joint resolution in 1848, for a grant of land to build a railroad from Davenport to the Missouri. In 1850, that application was repeated; also for a railroad from Dubuque via Cedar River, to North Red River; also for one from Burlington to the Missouri, with a branch to Keosauqua.

The first application for a land office West or Northwest of Dubuque, and for mail routes Northwest or Southwest of Cedar Falls, were made in 1850; and about half of the State laid out into counties.

Des Moines River Improvements—Flint and other Des Moines River men.

New Counties—Babbitt, Negus, E. S. McCulloch, Eaton and Harbour.

Mr. Casady, of the Senate, gave notice of his bill December 10th, and with the aid of M. H. Clark and A. J. Stephens had it reported to the House December 23d, laying out all the unlaidd out land into counties. I had introduced a resolution for the same purpose December 13th, but before our bill was perfected the Senate bill came in, when we went into committee of the whole house on that bill, and adopted most of their boundaries and many of their names. I named Bremer for Fredrika Bremer, the Swedish novelist, gem of literature, writer for millions and uplifter of humanity. Price named Ida, for Ida mountain and the ideal life given it by the great poet. Mr. Price was a poet, full and running over.

In fancy he was in the Argo with Jason and his fifty oarsmen. They are at the Symplegades.

“No bird of air, no dove of swiftest wing,
That bears ambrosia to th’ ethereal King
Shuns the dire rocks—in vain she cuts the skies,
The dire rocks meet, and crush her as she flies.”

They call aloud and summon Juno’s aid; they are passing through the forbidden strait; they are plowing the Euxine Sea; Medea loves Jason, and aids him in obtaining the golden fleece.

“They rise on the wing of the freshened breeze,
And flit with the wind o’er the rolling seas.”

He is with Jupiter and Juno, Mars and Chimera, and with Aurora, fair daughter of the dawn, circling above, and upon Mount Cragus and Mount Olympus, with Themis, and the Senate of the skies, winging their flight through the starry hall, in the valley and upon Mount Ida, with her palaces and courts, her halls, her galleries, and her amphitheaters.

“Swift as the wind the various colored maid,
From Ida’s top her golden wings displayed.”

They are marshaling and directing the armies, they are viewing and controlling the raging battles on the plains below; they are holding high carnival and falling into line, gods and goddesses waiting for the decision of the arbiter of beauty—Venus is crowned queen and Eliphalet retires.

Howard county was named for Tighlman A. Howard, Worth for Gen. William J. Worth, Butler for Gen. William O. Butler, Hardin for John J. Hardin, Grundy for Felix Grundy, Crawford for William H. Crawford, and Wright for Joseph A. and Silas Wright, Mitchell, Emmet and O’Brien were named for the Irish patriots, and Franklin, Hancock and Floyd for patriots of revolutionary fame. Floyd county was also named for Sergeant Floyd, who is buried at Sergeant Bluffs, near the mouth of Floyd River, where the Senate bill had the county of Floyd located and named for Sergeant Floyd.

Schools—Eaton, Harper, Parvin, Negus, McCulloch and Jacobs. January 16, 1840, an act was passed establishing a system of common schools, which was amended January 15, 1846, February 25, 1847, and January 15, 1849. The Code Commissioners recommended many changes; the most important was a divorcement of the educational and financial. Mr. Benton urged this, and quoted the Superintendent of Public Instruction of Michigan, who says, “The creation of the office, with slight change of name, was deduced from the Prussian system.” Mr. Lewis lectured in my school in Ohio in 1838 and in 1839, and gave us the same information; and he might have been the same man. He said the Prussian schools were the best he had ever visited, and that they were adopting that system in the Cincinnati schools.

The Bible in the Common School—That had been a matter of controversy in some of the states, but not in Iowa till about 1850. Mr. Benton referred to it in his report, and recommended that it be neither “introduced nor excluded by law;” and our committee agreed with him. I visited the Cincinnati schools in 1844, and believe Mr. Lewis is entitled to more credit for our Common School System than any other person. While it took the first prize

at the World's Fair at Paris, and while honors have been bestowed upon Horace Mann and others, the real founder of the system, in this country, is unsung, if not unknown, in Iowa.

We had many meetings; met with Benton, Mason and Woodard, and with the Senate Committee, many times, and made every effort to agree, but failed. February 4, I made two reports, one for the committee recommending the then present School Laws with slight additions; also a minority report signed by Harper and myself.

The majority report was adopted, and the session closed without accomplishing what many of us had worked for. It was, however, the commencement of our present school system, as I think a reading of the complete record will show.

Capital Punishment—The Senate passed a bill to abolish it. I did what I could to pass it in our house, but the majority won against us. I consider it a relic of barbarism that should be abolished.

Intoxicating Liquors—December 6 Summers introduced a petition of the citizens of Scott county for the repeal of all laws licensing the sale of ardent spirits, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee. December 9 Parvin introduced similar petitions from the ladies of Muscatine, and moved that a committee, with Charles Negus as chairman, be appointed, and that all papers pertaining to that subject be referred to it. That committee consisted of Negus, Parvin, Summers, Robinson, Samuel Riggs, Dibble, P. Wilson, Thompson, Allender, Wyckoff, Eaton and Taylor. Many similar petitions from nearly every county in the State were referred to our committee, and but very few against it.

On January 11 our committee, by the chairman, reported a bill, which, with some amendments, became Chapter 55, Title XII, Part one, of the Code. That report, in my opinion, will rank as the leader of Prohibition in Iowa, and John A. Parvin as its legislative leader.

While it was not all that Prohibitionists desired, it declared that the State would take no share in the profits of retailing intoxicating liquors; forbid a sale with a view to their being drank on or about the premises; prohibited dram shops, and declared them nuisances; subjected the building and land to a lien; declared the act of giving, in the prohibited places, a selling; made every clerk, bartender, or other person engaged in any of the prohibited acts principals, and liable to prosecution by indictment, or information before a justice of the peace, with penalties for enforcement.

I worked during that session and the next for what I considered high license, and against prohibition; worked against Negus, and Parvin, Summers and Robinson, and many others, and regret it. I should now vote otherwise. I then believed, as did every member of our committee, that intemperance was a great and growing evil. That report says: "The only difference of opinion was as to the best manner of remedying this great evil." I soon became satisfied that I had been mistaken. We must rid ourselves of all places where intoxicating liquors, for drinking purposes, can be made or sold. Why should we want alcoholic liquors for medicinal, culinary, or sacramental purposes? Alcohol is a poison and kills, slowly but surely. If we must have them for these, and for mechanical purposes, the State and general government should make and control them. The

remedy is, State and Congressional legislation, State and inter-State commissioners, as in the case of railroads.

After examining and passing each part, we passed an act for revising and consolidating the general statutes of the State of Iowa, and were declared adjourned, with the kind and affectionate farewell of the Speaker.

I cannot close this review without referring to the Officers:

That may be considered, not only a progressive and reform Session, but, at times, almost revolutionary; and yet Speaker Temple received unanimous approval.

While the lines of action were so sharply drawn that the yeas and nays, were recorded two hundred and four times, his rulings were reversed but twice. While he could not have succeeded so admirably without the aid of the best of subordinate officers, it is the best evidence of a clear and cultured mind, a pure heart and the born gentleman.

Song by Mrs. Cheek.

ADDRESS BY HON. GEO. W. JONES.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: I thank you, most sincerely, for the polite invitation to meet with you on this, your annual re-union. My anxiety to meet with old friends has induced me to appear before you, that I might once more shake their friendly hands and look into their intelligent and kind eyes. But I regret that your local Executive Committee should have designated me as the proper person, on this occasion, to address you as to "The Supreme Court of Early Iowa." As the last delegate to Congress from the Territory of Michigan, on the first Monday of October, 1835, I drew up and had passed, the bill to establish the territorial government of Wisconsin, which then embraced all that now constitutes all of the states of Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and all the other States and Territories of the United States north of the State of Missouri and what now constitutes the State of California. When that bill was passed Gen. Andrew Jackson was President of the United States. By a written and personal appeal to President Jackson, I induced that great hero and statesman to permit me, as the delegate in Congress, to designate the persons whom he should nominate to the Senate of the United States, as the Governor and ex-officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and General of the Militia of the Territory; the Secretary of State for the Territory, the United States Attorney and Marshal, and the Commissioners to run the boundary lines between that Territory and Michigan, and the State of Illinois, from amongst my own constituents of Wisconsin. He, the President, suggested and gave me permission to go to the State Department and to select any two *Democrats* from the *States*, to be appointed as Chief and Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. The third judge, son of David Irvin, he would retain, as he was then the District Judge west of the lake (Michigan), as he had promised his friend, Mr. Reeves, then the United States Minister Plenipotentiary to France, he would do before that gentleman's appointment as Minister, and whilst he was a Senator from Virginia. When my bill to establish the Territorial Government of Wisconsin passed, I asked my friends, Hon. Messrs. White, of Florida, and Sevier, of Arkansas, the only other delegates then in Congress, how I could get some of the offices,

created for the Territory, for my friends in Wisconsin. My two "colleagues," as we termed each other, said that I need not expect any such favor, as none such had ever been awarded to them. I told them that I had been the Sergeant of the Body Guard of Gen. Jackson, in November, 1823, as he passed through Kentucky and Lexington, *en route* to the Senate of the United States, from the State of Tennessee, and the college and class-mate of his adopted son, Stokely Donaldson, the brother of Gen. Jackson's private secretary.

This threw a damper on my spirits, and I sat down and wrote off a pretty sharp letter to the President, protesting against the injustice that would be done to my constituents, who were as good citizens as any citizens of the States, who were as devoted to him and the institutions of our country as any people in the Union, and as worthy and well qualified to fill the offices created for their benefit, by the Congress of the United States. The next morning his private secretary came to my seat in the House of Representatives and said to me: "Colonel, the General wants to see you." "What General wants to see me?" "General Jackson, the President of the United States." "What does the President want with me?" I inquired. Seeing that I was surprised, for it was the first time that I had ever received such a summons, the valiant Secretary continued: "Did you not write a saucy and threatening letter to the President yesterday?" "I hope not," I answered. "Well, sir, you have, and such a letter as no other man; in Congress, would dare to address Old Hickory. The old man is enraged, and is foaming at the mouth. He said: 'Donaldson, go and ask Colonel Jones to come and see me. I want to see if he can speak to me as he writes to me.' Now, go at once to see the old hero, who is waiting for you."

So I obeyed the summons, jumped into a hack and directed the driver to take me to the White House. On nearing his door I asked the messenger if I could see the President. The door-keeper went in and returned saying, "The President will see you." I walked in. The President, who sat with his back toward me by the side of his table with his feet resting upon it, smoking a corn-cob pipe, said, "Take a seat, Colonel." I did so, gladly, my knees trembling, for I expected to be blown up. He said, "Well, my son, I have read your letter with pleasure; it does honor to your head and heart. These offices created for your Territory are very important positions. Have you any man in your Territory who is qualified to discharge the duties of Governor, who is *ex-officio* Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of the Territory? All the offices created for the Territories are always filled by the citizens of the States." "My constituents, Mr. President, are citizens of the United States, are attached to the country and the government, have fought and conquered the Indians in the late war, etc., etc.," I replied. He proceeded, "What is the name of the man that you want for your Governor?" I replied, "General Henry Dodge. The man whom I served as aid-de-camp in the late Black Hawk war." "Is that the man that you want?" "Yes, sir; he is the man that my constituents desire to fill the office of Governor. He is now the commander, as Colonel, of the First Regiment of United States Cavalry."

"Well, my son," the old hero said, "My Cabinet are all in favor of giving these offices to the States, but I don't care what they may say, I will appoint your friend Governor. Bring me a list of all the offices to be filled for your

Territory with the salary attached to each. I will give you some of them, it matters not what my Cabinet may think or say."

I left the President the proudest and the happiest man that ever left the White House. The next day I called again to see the Old Chieftain with a list of all the offices to be filled by him, viz: a Governor, three Judges of the Supreme Court, a Secretary, United States Attorney, a United States Marshal, three Commissioners to run the boundary lines between Wisconsin and the adjoining Territory, Michigan and the State of Illinois. "But, my son," the President said, "I can't give you the Judges; my Cabinet think they would take all the public lands from us and we would never collect any more rents from the Lead Mines. But you may go into the State Department, examine the recommendations for the Judges from the Democrats, and whoever you choose to recommend for Judges, I will appoint."

I again left the great and good President and walked over to the State Department, hard by, and made my request of the Secretary of State, the splendid, talented and learned jurist and orator, Honorable John Forsyth, late a member of Congress from the State of Georgia. He said, "Oh, Colonel these recommendations are sacred archives of the government, which no one can see but the President and his Cabinet." He rang his bell and his confidential clerk, Mr. Chever, entered. He told the clerk to take me into his office and show me all the recommendations for the Judgeships in the new Territory of Wisconsin. The clerk replied, "Those papers, Mr. Secretary, are not subject to the inspection of any one but the President and his Cabinet." He replied, "The President has given Colonel Jones permission to see them and we can't disregard the wishes of the President."

In a day or so thereafter, as I walked into the Senate Chamber, I was requested by the Senator, Mr. Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, our late President of the United States, to stop for a moment, asking Dr. Linn, of Missouri, and Clayton, of Delaware, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, to join us. Mr. Buchanan said, "I called you out here to tell you something. I called this morning to see the President of the United States and requested him to appoint my old friend and fellow townsman, Mr. Frazer, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, which this young friend of ours (alluding to me) has induced us to create for him. The President promptly replied to my request, saying, 'If you want your friend appointed you must go to the delegate from the Territory, Colonel Jones. If he will recommend him I will appoint him, and not without.' I declined, as you know, to accept the appointment of Secretary of State when General Jackson was inaugurated as President of the United States, on the 4th of March, 1829. Now, Clayton, you and Colonel Jones are warm friends and you are an old friend of Frazer. Speak a good word to Colonel Jones, for Frazer." Clayton said, "Colonel, you and I are good friends and play the fiddle together with Linn, but I have nothing to do with these d—d loco focos. But Mr. Frazer is one of the most splendid gentlemen that I have ever known. I have practiced with him in Delaware and Pennsylvania for twenty years. He would do honor to the bench of any court in the United States."

"Well," said I to Mr. Buchanan, "write to your friend to come down here and see me, that I may tell my constituents that I know the man whom

I recommend." In a few days Mr. Buchanan brought his friend to see me, and he dined with me that day. At the dinner table he refused to taste of any kind of wine or liquors, which pleased me. I, that evening, recommended him, and the President the next day sent his name in and he was confirmed as one of the Supreme Justices of Wisconsin. I gave him letters of introduction to Governor Dodge, to Mrs. McArthur, his half sister, the full sister of Doctor Linn, and to many other friends of mine. On arriving at Mrs. McArthur's—she kept a hotel—he complained to her that the water of the Ohio and the Mississippi had disagreed with him and that he was then suffering considerable pain. She said, "I'll soon relieve you Judge;" went out into her pantry and returned with a tumbler full of strong, hot, brandy milk toddy, into which she had put some laudanum. The Judge put the toddy to his nose, smelt the laudanum and drank it down, as Mrs. McArthur directed. He went out into the bar room soon after, called for liquor, got very drunk that evening, and kept drunk all the time afterwards in Wisconsin, and was taken back to Pennsylvania, where he died not long afterward in an asylum. If Mrs. McArthur had told him that the toddy was made of the best kind of brandy, he would have shunned it, for he had not tasted any kind of spirits or liquors for twenty years.

The President, on my recommendation, appointed Captain Charles Dunn, of Illinois, Chief Justice of Wisconsin Territory, and he continued to fill the office as long as Wisconsin continued a Territory and gave great satisfaction to the people.

I secured the passage of the bill to establish the Territory of Iowa, exactly two years, 4th of July, 1838, after the creation of Wisconsin as a separate Territory, and Mr. Van Buren, the then President of the United States, permitted me to designate the three men as Justices of the Supreme Court of the Territory, viz.: Chief Justice Charles Mason, Thomas S. Wilson and Joseph Williams. I gave Wisconsin and Iowa their names, and I believe I was the first man who created a Territory before the original was admitted as a State. So, also, was I, as a delegate in Congress, the first man who was permitted to designate the men to fill the offices created for the new territory.

On my return home from Bogota, on the 27th of February, 1862, I upbraided my attorneys, Thomas M. Monroe, Samuel Duncan, and C. S. D. Jones for not taking an appeal to the Supreme Court of Iowa from a decree of Judge Thomas S. Wilson, rendering a judgment against me for some five thousand and nearly four hundred dollars, for upwards of two thousand against Captain George Ord Karrick, and about nine hundred dollars against Thomas Waters, in the suit of Alexander Levi vs. Karrick, Jones & Waters, the interests of Karrick & Waters, in the case, having been bought for me, by my direction, by my son, in my absence and as I had directed.

My attorneys thought it would be useless to take an appeal to a Supreme Court composed of Abolitionists and expect a decree in my favor, as I had been incarcerated in Fort La Fayette, by order of Secretary Seward. But upon my return home I had the appeal taken, believing as I did, that injustice had been done me, and that the Supreme Court, if honest men, would reverse the decree of Judge Wilson. On the hearing of the case by the Supreme Court they unanimously reversed Judge Wilson's decree, giving me a judgment against Levi for some fifteen hundred dollars, and requir-

ing Levi to return to me the property which had been sold by the sheriff to satisfy his judgment. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at that time was the Honorable George G. Wright, the Chairman of your local Executive Committee, with Honorable B. F. Gue, and Honorable P. M. Casady as associates, the latter gentleman had worked hard to elect me as Iowa's first United States Senator, and for my re-election on the 20th of December, 1852. God bless the noble trio and the Supreme Court of my State, I fervently pray, and especially its Chief Justice, now our President, elected to-day.

Music, the Misses Smith and Welsh.

THE CHAIR: The next thing in the order of business is an address by Hon. William H. Pusey, of Council Bluffs, upon "Recollections of the Seventh General Assembly."

MR. PUSEY: *Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen*—There is one remark I desire to make, and I guess it will be in order at this time. Some time ago I received a very cordial invitation from Judge Wright to be present to-day, and it contained a postscript like this: "You will be expected to read a paper ten minutes long before the Early Law Makers." I tried to get rid of the postscript by writing to the Judge, "I cannot decipher the penmanship." But that was too old a gag on the Judge and would not work. I never understood fully just why he restricted me to ten minutes until yesterday—yesterday morning—when he read a paper an hour and a half long.

I was here last evening and my old friend, Governor Carpenter, exhausted this question of the Seventh and Eighth General Assemblies. I feel this morning a good deal like the old hunter who was attached to his gun that was broken, and in order to save it he kept on mending and mending until at last he had nothing left but the lock and flint. If I can elicit anything from the lock and flint that is left, I shall be glad to read it to you, and shall do so with a great deal of pleasure. I am glad to meet so many friends. My friend Ainsworth, who is always ready to forgive me, I know will forgive me on this occasion.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—On the 11th day of January, 1858, the General Assembly of Iowa convened for the first time at the new Capitol and under the provisions of the new organic law of the State. The history and legislation of the Seventh and Eighth General Assemblies, including the war session of 1861, possess a fascinating interest to the participants in their deliberations. It was the period immediately preceding and contemporaneous with the heroic age of Iowa history, when our banners were inscribed, "He who *saves* his country *saves* all things, and all things saved will bless him. He who lets his country *die*, lets all things *die*, and all things dying curse him." We met in the gloom of a great National calamity. The financial revulsion of 1857 had not then spent the full fury of its blighting influence on the people within our borders. The great manufacturing States of the Atlantic were slowly recovering from the great disaster, but the five hundred thousand people of Iowa scattered over the vast domain from river to river, shut out from the markets of the sea board were utterly prostrate. The panic touched the *sick body of desolate and despairing agriculture*. It paralyzed the arm of the artizan and the toiler. Values were destroyed; personal credit forfeited; individual liabilities overwhelming; the little money in circulation depreciated and irredeemable; our state credit was

impaired; more than one hundred and sixty thousand dollars of floating debt in the form of auditor's warrants bearing eight per cent interest and selling at a discount; our State institutions unfinished and not properly maintained for want of funds; many of the counties delinquent and in default in payment of their quota for the support of the State government, and no revenue law adequate to enforce the collection.

These were the conditions confronting those practical men of affairs, who substituted business for politics; who elevated patriotism above partisanship; who addressed themselves to the work *in hand*, with experience taught by adversity, with knowledge obtained by actual contact with suffering and the forced frugality of the people. Thus stimulated, they put forth immediate and effective efforts in uplifting and upbuilding the prostrate condition of an overburdened people, and under the authority of the *new constitution* inaugurated a new rule reviving the hopes of the toilers and placing our State credit upon a sure and enduring basis. Remedial legislation had been asked for; stay laws and appearance terms were enacted to give the debtor class opportunity and hope to save their mortgaged homes. The floating debt of the State was liquidated, a revenue law was enacted, which in its equitable provisions, has carried the State through all these years of lavish expenditure with unimpaired credit. Banks of issue were established which drove all alien and depreciated money from our borders. County and township governments were established which have proven the wisdom of the change in their success and popularity on the theory of home rule. The great industry of the State, agriculture, was taken under the fostering care of the State, in the establishment of a college in which the youth could acquire a higher intelligence in their vocation. The school lands and the fund arising from their sale were restored from the rapacity and criminal waste of those who had had them in charge. Co-ordinate with the Board of Education, they perfected a system of common school education which is the glory and pride of the State. Founded on the basis of property taxation in lieu of the rate system or per capita tax upon scholars, placing education on the higher view, that in the greatest enlightenment of the citizen is the safety and perpetuity of free government. They placed that rich inheritance of land, ceded to us by the general government for internal improvements, in the hands of those who have made our State a checker-board of railroads on which our producers are playing for the markets of the world. General laws were substituted for special legislation. The revision of 1860, aided by a Codifying Commission, was the work of those bodies. The swamp and overflowed lands, amounting to over one-half million of acres, were selected, certified, and afterwards patented to the then unorganized counties in which they were located. Proper and effective steps were taken to secure and collect from the National Government the large fund, then amounting to over a million of dollars, known as the "five per cent fund," realized by the Interior Department on sale of lands belonging to the State of Iowa, on the terms of her admission as a State.

These were some of the practical measures of those legislators. They builded wisely and well, a system of government, which the wisdom and experience of those who have come after have perfected, affording sure and safe protections to the rights and property of this now populous and prosperous State.

☐ The failures of the crops of 1858 and 1859, by reason of the rainy seasons, was succeeded by abundant harvest. The blighting effect of the panic was slowly but surely passing away. 'Lo, the winter is passed. The rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.' When, suddenly as the fire bell at night, the booming of cannon is heard at Sumpter, summoning our people to greater sacrifices and renewed consecration to country in the baptism of fire. The Eighth General Assembly was hurriedly convened. A militia law was immediately enacted placing the volunteer companies of the State under the control of the Governor. The credit of Iowa, now peerless in the moneyed markets of the world, was placed in the hands of the Governor and a Commission. When the gavel fell that beautiful May morning, in the old Capitol building, announcing that labors of the Eighth General Assembly had passed into history it was with the benedictions of our people upon our citizen soldiers hurrying to the front, where they soon placed Iowa as one of the Trinity of Western States.

Indiana—MORTON.

Illinois—YATES.

Iowa—KIRKWOOD.

Looking back through the vista of more than thirty years upon the shadowy forms of the men with whom we were so intimately associated in the most trying period of our history, what can be worthily said of them personally? There was Hall, Clark, Drummond, Carpenter, Seevers, Wright, Gue, Cattell, Thompson, Edwards, Belknap, McCreary, Claggett, Caldwell, Kellogg, Baker, Merrill, Anderson, Loughridge, Grinnell, Neal, Scott, and many others, who have left the impress of master hands upon the work accomplished. Then there was the great lawyer who gave his young life to his country, the brilliant Rankin. Then there was the quiet man of the Senate, well-informed, self-poised, undisturbed by eloquence or sophistry, still in the enjoyment of the confidence of the people of the State and the respect of his neighbors, the genial Lyman Cook. There is Alvin Saunders (my neighbor), who is rounding up a conspicuous and busy life, teaching the Mormons the mysteries of the elective franchise and aiding our worthy President in keeping matters harmonious west of the Missouri. Duncomb and Ainsworth, who always saw the sunny side of life and the funny side of politics, whose incisive intellects and learning in their profession made them invaluable in perfecting the Revision of 1860. The industrious and ever alert legislator, the brave soldier, the great corporation lawyer and jurist. Henry Trimble, is still in the enjoyment of his intellectual vigor. The Senator from Jefferson, James F. Wilson, who has been so conspicuous in State and National affairs, is in the zenith of his fame and usefulness. The suave and accomplished gentleman whose urbanity won respect, whose fund of statistics and business experience made him the Rupert of debate on economical and financial questions, the gifted Coolbaugh, has passed away.

No more pleasing privilege is granted us on this Reunion Day than the greeting we send our "War Governor," who, in his happy home on the banks of the Iowa, honored by the State and Nation, in the eventide of a full rounded and honest life, is confidently and peacefully waiting—waiting for the Master's call.

Gentlemen, this hurried and brief memorabilis may serve to awaken pleasing recollections of the days that are gone, and serve to strengthen our faith in the great possibilities awaiting our beloved State.

W. H. M. PUSEY,
Council Bluffs, Iowa.

An original poem by Hon. D. F. Miller, of Keokuk, was here read by the secretary.

The following in relation to pioneer lawyers and citizens of Burlington, Iowa, is copied from the versified manuscript history of the territorial and old settler days of Iowa, by D. F. Miller, Sr., of Keokuk, Iowa:

PIONEER LAWYERS AND OTHER CITIZENS OF BURLINGTON, IOWA.

In Burlington were lawyers four,
Distinguished each for genius great,
And noted, too, for legal lore,
Ere Iowa was yet a State.

And when our land became a State,
They kept their places at the bar,
And were there held as lawyers great,
Nor one with taint of moral scar.

They all are gone — have passed from earth —
But each has left an honored name,
And time, the chronicler of Truth,
But serves to consecrate their fame.

D. Rorer most excelled in law,
To urge a point, or seize a flaw;
Was ever to his client true,
And famed for speech the country through.
He was imbued with poet's fire,
And oft to verses tuned his lyre,
Which were as sweet in tone and thought,
As e'er by minstrel song was wrought.
And as law author, there is none,
Who to his standard yet has come
In Iowa; and wide his name
Now stirs the world with legal fame.

Of J. C. Hall, with vigorous mind,
And gentle thoughts to all inclined,
Of him to speak — what shall I say
To all his legal worth display?
He was not deeply read in law,
But by instinctive nature saw
Where the law was, or ought to be,

When law and common sense agree;
 And by his will and mental force,
 Which were at law his best resource,
 He press'd his cause on general line
 Of common sense, to law define;
 And when he had an equal show
 No other lawyer, friend or foe,
 Could his law fortress overthrow.

And M. D. Browning, noble, true,
 As court and jury ever knew,
 Was learned in law and quick in wit;
 To turn a laugh, or give a hit;
 To teach good manners to a foe,
 Or else up "Salt Creek" make him row;
 And in his pleadings at the bar,
 Was famed as jurist near and far.

Charles Mason was the judge those days,
 And gentle was in all his ways;
 Which much the bar and jury pleased,
 And his judicial labors eased;
 And though not much to law inclined,
 Was bless'd with majesty of mind
 Which gave him force to see and know
 Where ought his legal voice to go,
 And which, with him, to "know," was "to do."
 And writing on affairs of State,
 And truth of politics relate,
 He was unquestionably great.

And Burlington, in days of yore,
 When Mississippi ran its shore,
 Where now the railroad depot stands,
 And Hawkeye Creek was free from bands
 And freely flowed on golden sands;
 Before the Hodges hung in glen
 It was far-famed for noted men;
 Her Dodge, and Warren, Corse, and Henn,
 Her Leffler, Starrs, and Edwards, too,
 And Clark, and Grimes, and Cook, were few
 Of the bright names who, in old days,
 Gave Burlington its start and praise.

Music, quartette.

THE CHAIR: I see in the body of the audience a gentleman whom I was advised by Judge Trimble, was requested to be ready to say something at this time, possibly read a paper, and I have no doubt whether advised beforehand or not, he is always ready. I call upon him to come forward to the platform. I refer to the silver-tongued orator from the Hairy Nation, Bloomfield, Col. Moore.

S. A. MOORE, of Davis County, Senator 10th and 11th-1864 and 1866: *Gentlemen of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association*—A very eminent writer has left on record the opinion that, "If a man looks upon himself in an abstracted light, he has not much to boast of; but if he considers himself with regard to others, he may find occasion of glorying, if not in his own virtues, at least in the absence of another's imperfections." If there is but little in my past life as a Law-Maker to boast of, I feel grateful that there is so little that I would recall—so little to regret in my intercourse with my colleagues in the Legislature.

As a member of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association I have looked forward to this biennial reunion in the earnest hope of meeting many personal friends, and distinguished gentlemen, whom I had known in years gone by and who have honored me with their friendship and association for more than forty years.

Some of them I have known as neighbors, living along the Southern border of the State when I was a new emigrant to the new State, bringing a new wife and new babies, and settling down in the prairie home, with sunny heart and hopes, and boundless aspirations for the future. I have enjoyed the friendship of the early settlers; many of whom have pulled the latch-string of my cabin door, unloosed their sandals from weary feet, and partaken of its rude hospitality; entertained me with the latest and most startling news from their settlement, over the "divide" on the other prairie. Talked of crops and clearings, rail making, well digging, seed wheat and chinch bugs, the district school, the coming election and the new Code, until the flickering light of the tallow dip admonished us of the waning hours, and the time for rest, and as memory called to mind the old familiar quotation, "The sleep of the laboring man is sweet" (the proper application having been made to ourselves), we would retire, and while the moon and stars kept their vigil in the heavens above us—brighter than the skies of Italy—we slept the sleep of the just. The morn would break with song of birds and bring new life and hope. Far away in every direction extended the boundless sea of prairie—green and verdant, as if wet with the dews that decended on the mountain of Zion. The decay of vegetation for a thousand centuries had left a soil rich as the valley of the Nile, or the terraced isles of the sea, and over all this boundless expanse of beauty and grandeur—growing in the soft sunlight and summer breezes, were beautiful and fragrant flowers, bearing in their season, the most brilliant colors, and upon which the eye never rested without a sense of refreshment and delight.

The acquaintance and friendships formed during the sessions of the Tenth and Eleventh General Assemblies stimulate my desire to be present at this meeting that I might note the changes that time had made in the faces and forms of those who were my colleagues during those important sessions—one while the war of the Rebellion was still raging and the blighting influence of its power felt in every home, and the prayers and tears of the Nation were mingled with the roar of the artillery and the clash of arms. And the other during the days of reconstruction, when the hearts and brains of the wisest patriots and statesmen were taxed to their utmost capacity to bring order out of chaos, establish the authority of the government, restore the desolate and waste places, heal the wounds, disband the armies, light anew the fur-

nace fires, set in motion the silent wheels of every industry that would give employment to labor, and lead the Nation, so sorely tried in its baptism of fire, but strong in the hearts of the people, forward in the sublimity of its strength, and the absolute justice of its power.

The representatives of Iowa felt the full force of the responsibility resting upon them to aid the general government to secure the fruits of the terrible struggle for its life, and then efface the scars under the banner of peace. And to this end, keeping in view the best interest of the State, we labored. I need not weary you by reciting the many good things done at those sessions of the General Assembly. They are all record, and whether for weal or woe of the State and Nation, the record will remain forever.

Matters of the greatest and gravest importance were presented for our consideration. Under the watchful care of Governor Kirkwood the extraordinary expenses incidental to raising and equipping troops and sending them to the field were kept properly guarded so that at the beginning of the session of 1864, he announced in his message that the State finances were never in a more healthy condition. The State debt was over \$600,000. But the vast resources of the State nearly thirty years ago, when as a State we were but eighteen years old, was estimated by the Auditor, including the money in the treasury, the delinquent taxes, the amount estimated to be due from the United States, and the taxes for 1863 and 1864 were sufficient to pay the expenditures for two years, to pay the outstanding warrants on the treasury and our entire State debt, leaving a balance in favor of the treasury of about \$200,000.

The care of the assessment and collection of the revenues, the various land grants, the common schools, the University, the railroads and prisons, the extension, care and support of the benevolent institutions, and all the machinery of State government looking to the happiness and prosperity of the citizens of the State. The care of all these, and many more of the priceless treasures of the young commonwealth, had been handed down to the members of the Tenth and Eleventh General Assemblies by the earlier Law-Makers.

I will not weary you by attempting to review our labors. The record is there in the great Library on Capitol Hill. The result can be seen and read of all men, as a part of the history of a great State—the happy homes of two million prosperous people—blessed with all the essential elements of freedom, and the lights and appliances of the highest state of civilization, where the blessedness of peace settles like a benediction, on cottage and palace walls. And I had contemplated a great deal of pleasure in meeting with the older Law-Makers—a number of whom had been present at our first reunion, and also at our meeting two years ago. I was deeply impressed with the plain, sterling, and rugged abilities of those men who favored us with addresses and short speeches—the total absence of egotism and dress parade; but their knowledge of the early history of the State, and former legislation, their tenacity of memory, and over and above all else, their love and devotion for Iowa and their generous friendship for each other, thrilled me with emotions that will linger and dwell with me with a peculiar fondness as the years wear on.

As a member of the Senate in the Tenth and Eleventh General Assemblies, they have generously accorded me a seat in their Association, and classed me

as one of the old Law-Makers. And, although I am recognized by many of my intimate friends as a young man of rather excessive modesty, I own that I felt proud of the distinction. And yet, when I come to listen to the addresses of the honorable and venerable gentlemen who were associates of the Territorial Government from 1838 to 1846, and with the State Government from 1846 to 1864, at which time my services as a Law-Maker began, I felt that I was but a student in the history of legislation, and that I was sitting meekly but reverently at the feet of those older Pioneers, as Paul sat at the feet of Gamaliel.

The impressions made on my mind and memory at our first reunion, were so vivid and inspiring, so blended with pleasure and melancholy sadness, that on my return home I sketched briefly some of the incidents and my own impressions, that seemed to cling to me like a shadow for many days after the close of the session.

The brief sketch was filed away in a pigeon hole, that I might review it, and keep alive the memories of the Association when too old and feeble to meet with the old Law-Makers any more. Believing that it may not be wholly void of interest, and may serve to awaken in some other heart beside my own a pleasant memory, and keep alive the tender emotions which the occasion inspired, and as there are many new members of the Association who were not present at our first meeting who are enjoying their first reunion to-day, they will not chide me for a brief review of our reunion in 1866.

The most interesting event of the past week was the assembly of old Law-Makers in Des Moines. The call embraced the General Assemblies from 1836 to 1866. There were old men present who in the Territorial and early State Legislatures had represented a territory greater in extent than many of the kingdoms of the old world. Coming to the State as pioneers, staking out their claims, organizing their "club-courts," whose decisions, as Judge Hebard expressed it, "were as good and as near justice as any that have ever been enforced in the State, and were final, fatal, and eternal." Those men became the lawyers, the law-makers, judges of the courts, other State officers and Governors in the new commonwealth. Many of them rose to high positions in the State. On farm and in field they have contributed to the growth and prosperity of the Nation. Many of them had gone to their reward, and the remnant who met together on the 24th and 25th of February, 1886, and listened to the roll call of their associates and colleagues of the olden time, and the slow responses and the silence between them—in memory they would seem to see the face and features and hear the voices of the shadowy forms that moved in the silent procession, and yet gave back no answering tone—their hearts grew sad; and when the choir sang softly and low, that dear old song, "Auld Lang Syne," the hearts grew warmer, and the eyes dim with age felt the touch of tears. And then again after they had talked to each other and told the stories of the past, of the trials and hardships, the successes and reverses of their early manhood, the triumphs and defeats, but above all and through all, and over all these, they had lived to see the full fruition of their fondest hopes, in the growth and prosperity, the grandeur and glory of Iowa, "the beautiful land," standing out in the great commonwealth like a light house in the midst of the sea. And these old veterans and pioneer Law-Makers felt a commendable pride

in the fact that they were at the beginning and lent a helping hand to start the State on her career of greatness and renown.

The songs selected by the choir seemed so appropriate and so peculiarly touching in sentiment and rendition that they moved upon the feelings and affections like the tones of a harp when its strings are touched by the gentlest zephyr, and when they sang

“How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollection presents them to view,”

There were bowed heads and moistened eyes and quickened pulse, and tender memories were awakened. “The orchard, the meadow, and deep tangled wildwood,” passed in review before them. And there amid the freshness and fragrance of flowers, nestling in the shadow of the great trees, where the song bird built her nest, there stood the “cot of my father,” with the blessedness and peace of mother love, with the halo of eternal light encircling it, and the “well” and the “old oaken bucket”—it was a moment when the tenderest and manliest feelings and emotions of the human heart could demand its birthright, throw off the restraints, conventionalities of the times, and live for that one brief moment in the atmosphere of heaven, and feel the warm blood, the tide of life rushing through the veins as in early manhood. It was a reunion in the fullest sense of the term. The sharp conflict of opinion, the earnest grappling in heated political contests, the spirited and persistent strife in debate over measures of public policy; all these were forgotten in the memories of the “long ago,” when they had parted from each other with heart beating to heart, and hands slow to unclasp.

Permanent officers were elected. Hon. John F. Duncombe was elected President, with sixteen Vice-Presidents, seven Secretaries and one Sergeant-at-Arms. There were many speeches and short addresses, together with a message from ex-Governor Gear, all pleasant, pleasing and appropriate. There was a visit to the Legislature in session, a brilliant reception by the Governor, the Capitol was illuminated and everybody tried to make the old Law-Makers welcome and happy.

But the closing scene was marked by an event that cast a shadow over the hearts of all. Judge Mitchell, of Nebraska, a member of the Ninth General Assembly, arose, and after alluding in a very pleasing and effectual manner to his legislative experience, paid a most beautiful tribute to Iowa and Iowa soldiers. Those near him observing that his remarks grew weaker, attributed it to his emotions, which seemed to overcome him. His last words were, “I revere the men and the memory of the Ninth General Assembly, and I must ever love the patriotism and devotion of the Iowa soldier. But, gentlemen, I have already spoken too long——.” Saying which, he sank down into his seat, but instantly fell forward into the aisle. In a few moments Dr. Caldwell announced, “Judge Mitchell is dead.”

I cannot describe the feelings of the Assembly. It was so sudden, so unexpected, and coming when our hearts were warm, and our love was deepened, and the affections were enlarged, until the world was brighter. It was one of those supreme moments in the life of a man when he feels that all distinctions between wealth and poverty, between the highest attainment of talent and the plane of simple recognition, between the glory of the grand-

est achievement of human effort and the rust and mildew of blighted hopes and wasted life—that all these distinctions are leveled, and the famished heart feels the kinship of the race, the tie of consanguinity that binds him to his fellowman, and the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of mankind seems so true that he stands uncovered while the entire race moves like a panorama before the eternal King, the Father of us all.

In conclusion bear with me one moment more. Memory recalls the names of Lieutenant-Governor Eastman, Senator McCrary, Clarkson, Jennings, Cattell, Woolsen, Cutts, and some others who have laid down their burdens and journeyed onward, seeking their homes amid the everlasting light. They were men of talent and sterling worth, with integrity of character that the revenue of an empire could not purchase. We shall meet them again, where society is veritable, where language is audible, and where the glory is eternal.

THE CHAIR: The gentleman from Warren, Mr. Todhunter, asks that a paper he holds in his hands, giving the names of the members of the Constitutional Convention of 1857, be incorporated in the minutes of these proceedings, and if there is no objection it will be so incorporated.

MR. LEWIS TODHUNTER: *Mr. President*—I desire to say a word for the Constitution that was enacted in 1857, and our now Constitution. No State has a better one. No State has one that has stood so long without having been revised. There has been but three amendments to the present one, first, to strike out the word white where it occurred; second, to change the judicial district of the State and enlarge the number of judges and change the district prosecuting attorney to that of county attorney; third, change the time of holding elections from October to November. The fourth one was submitted to the people to vote on in 1882, and was carried by a vote of 30,000 to absolutely prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, including wine and beer, but was defeated by a decision of the Supreme Court on a purely technical question. Had that amendment been left alone our Constitution would be about perfect. The convention that enacted our Constitution consisted of thirty-six members, twenty-four of whom have died, as follows:

Edward Johnston, William Patterson, Squire Ayres, Timothy Day, M. W. Robinson, J. C. Hall, D. P. Palmer, George Gillespie, Daniel W. Price, David Bunker, Jeremiah Hollingsworth, James A. Young, H. D. Gibson, John A. Parvin, George W. Ellis, Robert Gower, Aylett Cotton, Hosea W. Gray, William A. Warren, A. H. Marvin, J. H. Emmerson, Alpheas Scott, Sheldon D. Winchester, John T. Clark.

The following men are still living:

Francis Springer, James F. Wilson, R. L. B. Clark, John Edwards, Amos Harris, Daniel H. Solomon, Lewis Todhunter, W. Penn Clarke, J. C. Traer, Harry J. Skiff, Thomas Seely, John H. Peters.

Here an adjournment was had until 2 o'clock P. M.

The meeting was called to order at 2 P. M., by Judge Wright.

Song, Star Spangled Banner, by quartette.

Three cheers given.

On motion that a committee of three be appointed to draft by-laws and report to the next meeting, B. F. Gue, Hoyt Sherman, and P. M. Casady were appointed.

Report of Committee on Resolutions:

Resolved, That the Association of Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, in their Third Re-union assembled, do most heartily approve of the bill introduced by Senator Gatch for an act to promote historical collections in the Capitol of Iowa. Especially do we approve of the main feature of the bill, which is to appoint a curator of historical collections, who shall, in the language of the bill, proceed to collect and arrange books, maps, charts, public documents, manuscripts, and other papers and materials illustrative of the history of Iowa in particular and of the West generally.

Resolved, further, That in our judgment there can be no subject of general legislation which should commend itself to more careful and earnest attention than that embodied in this bill, Senate File No. 20, and that we do therefore, most earnestly ask for its passage.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, attested by the President and Secretary of this Association, be transmitted to the Senate and House of Representatives of this State.

Resolved, That the courtesy extended to this Association by the State Legislature, now in session, merits and receives our earnest praise.

Resolved, That the local Executive Committee of this Association, upon whom has devolved the task of making all the necessary preparations for our most pleasant reunion, are entitled to our very sincere thanks; and that we further tender our thanks to the officers, singers and other musicians who have so largely contributed to the success and pleasure of this reunion.

Resolved, That the Association tenders its sincere acknowledgments to the citizens of Des Moines for their active exertions on our behalf, and for the many courtesies during this reunion.

Resolved, That our thanks are due the managers of our Iowa railroads for their generous reduction of fares to the members of this Association.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee that the terms of all officers of this reunion shall terminate with the election of their successors, on the closing day of the reunion.

On motion the resolutions were received and adopted.

Hon. P. M. Casady, from the Committee on Nominations of Officers (for the ensuing year), submitted the following:

President—George G. Wright, Polk County.

Secretaries—C. S. Wilson, Polk County.

Lafe Young, Polk County.

Lewis H. Smith, Algona.

Vice-Presidents—Edwin Manning, Van Buren County.
George C. Shipman, Muscatine County.
F. M. Knoll, Dubuque County.
Reuben Noble, Clayton County.
John Russell, Jones County.
James Hilton, Monroe County.
Lewis Todhunter, Warren County.
Warren S. Dungan.
W. H. M. Pusey, Pottawattamie County.
Ira A. Tremaine, Hamilton County.
R. A. Smith, Dickinson County.

This report was unanimously adopted.

DR. ROWELL: I want to say a word. We have a choir of four persons here, and two of them—I do not want any one to understand me as making a distinction—but two of this choir have sung to these people for the last twenty-five years, sung at church, at public gatherings, at funerals, at social meetings, and they have sung at our meetings here; they are those whom we have known for years. I refer now to Capt. Muffly and Mrs. Cheek. Now, in honor of their age and experience and the work they have done, I move that they be made honorary members of the Association.

MAJOR SHERMAN: I wish to make an addition to that motion and move as an amendment that the name of Miss Laird be added.

The amendment being accepted and the motion that Capt. Muffly, Mrs. Cheek and Miss Laird be made honorary members was unanimously carried.

MR. ALDRICH: We have elected Mr. Wilson for our next Secretary and two other gentlemen whom I do not suppose will help him much. I therefore move that Mr. John M. Davis be added to the list of Secretaries.

This motion being seconded and adopted.

MR. SHERMAN: I desire to announce the presence of a committee from the Senate.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE: I have the honor to represent that we are a committee appointed by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly, to report to you and extend their greetings, and express their regret at not being able to meet with you on your kind invitation of yesterday, on account of business engaging that honorable body.

JUDGE WRIGHT: *Gentlemen*—Take from me, as Chairman of the Association, our extreme regrets that you are unable to be with us. We thank you for the trouble you have taken of coming to tell us of the resolution. Please express to the Senate our regret and also our wish that this session will be in all respects such as to build up the State of Iowa, and that they can take home to their constituency the reflection that they have done well as servants of the people.

Letters from Hon. W. M. Chapman, Senator Harlan, Ex-Governor Gear, Judge Fairall, Judge Hubbard, and Judge Kinney, were read by the Secretary.

On motion the other letters were referred to the Committee on Printing.

JUDGE WRIGHT: During the last reunion a resolution was passed asking the General Assembly to provide for the publication of the proceedings of the Association. There has been no such action taken here as yet. I would suggest that some such action be taken. They made the order two years ago and I have no doubt they will again.

MR. ALDRICH: I move that the the local Executive Committee be entrusted with that duty.

The motion was seconded and adopted.

MR. ALDRICH: Judge Parvin just now proffered a sketch of the life of W. W. Chapman for publication in the next volume of our proceedings. I move that the proposition be accepted.

The motion was adopted.

JUDGE WRIGHT: It seems to me it would be a proper thing that we send to Col. Chapman a resolution of sympathy in his affliction, and also that Judge Kinney, having the data at hand by which he can prepare his paper on "The Early Courts of Iowa," be requested to prepare the same, and that it be incorporated in our proceedings.

It was moved and seconded that Judge Kinney be requested to prepare the paper and forward it for publication in the proceedings. Carried.

THE CHAIRMAN: The chair takes occasion now to appoint as local Executive Committee, P. M. Casady, ex-Governor B. F. Gue and Major Sherman.

It was moved and seconded that the officers selected serve until the close of the next reunion. The motion prevailed.

Mr. Ballinger, of Mahaska County, was called for.

MR. BALLINGER: As a matter of course I am not prepared to make anything like an address, but I will stand up before you, Mr. President and members of the Association and let you know that I am alive. A great many men have died that are younger than I am. But I have survived from the Twelfth General Assembly until to-day, and think from the way I have enjoyed myself here I should like to live until another Assembly at least. I think, Mr. President, my chances are as good as yours, and hope to see you again at the next reunion.

I was a member of the Twelfth General Assembly and was just thinking to-day whether I did anything worthy of note. Am not sure about that. I do not know that the journals of the House will show that, but there was one thing that I am proud of although it involved some little difficulties in the committee of which I was a member—the Committee on Railroads—and

away down towards the tail end of the committee. But there was a disposition on the part of the people of New York to stop the great Rock Island road at Des Moines; to serve an injunction or something of that kind. It was before us and I thought a good deal about it, and finally concluded it was a conspiracy between the capital of Wall Street and the men that owned the capital in the State of Iowa. I made my maiden speech in the Twelfth General Assembly on this injunction, served by some parties in New York on the Rock Island Road. I believe Ed. Wright said he didn't know whether he made a speech or not, but I tell you I did make a speech. We passed a law breaking down the injunction and told the railroad men interested to just build right on to Council Bluffs and we will stand by your backs. (Applause.) Then I made some more speeches, and by the way, they were all pretty good ones—I have witnesses. (Laughter.) There was a controversy about the judges—how many we would have. Some said the judges were imposed upon, and I guess they were—that they were overworked. They worked upon my sympathies. I made a speech in defense of the judges—I never was a hater of lawyers—and it took with the people and we succeeded in what we intended to do; that is, we made more judges in order to lessen the amount of labor for the judges that were in. "In union of many there is strength." That was one of my speeches. I spoke about half an hour at a time; and the speeches, like Nebuchadnezzar's, when King of Babylon, have gone from me, but I remember the subject matter and know there was a great deal of truth in them. I made a temperance speech once; that was a good one of course, because I have always been a temperance man. I studied the subject in particular. I will tell you I made a remark of this kind: "Rather than see our young men wrecked, I would see the last bottle, keg and demijohn of liquor rolled into one huge mountain pile and ignited; yes," I said, "I could rest as I saw the flames lick the stars rather than make our young men drunkards!" Now who could do better than that? Another thought, and I will come to a close. I rather like the looks of this audience. I have no enmity against any of you, but I see from our looks that we are dropping off, and I charitably hope that we will loose nothing and gain something. I admit there are some in the General Assemblies, all of them, that are none too good, but at the same time, brethren, we can muster faith and hope in the God that is good and that we all recognize; faith in the God who rules all things for good in the end. Then, I made another speech on the appropriation for erecting a new Capitol, and that is another thing I made a good speech on. I voted to raise the salaries of the members of the General Assembly, so that they should be honorable and respectable.

But, gentlemen I know that in a short time we will be numbered with the generations of the dead. It fills me with emotion. I sometimes feel light; sometimes levity takes possession of me; but I want it understood, I have feelings. I love my race, and hence it makes me feel a little sad when I say that you, among whom I have gone preaching; shall soon see me no more; but I say to you here to-day, if I ever meet with you again—if Judge Wright lives so as to preside over us, I intend to come; but it makes me sad to lose these grand men, so many of whom helped to make Iowa one of the greatest States in the Union. Our ranks have been riddled by shot and shell, but let us say, "Bless God, there is a life to come." When one of Napol-

eon's generals said to him, "In thirty years you will be avenged for what your enemies have done, but I shall die," Napoleon said, "There is another life." Gentlemen, let us hope there is another life, and God bless us all!

Music, by the Misses Smith and Welch, of Boone.

MR. SHERMAN: I have the pleasure to announce the presence of the members of the House of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly as the guests of this Association.

Song by the choir, "When They Ring the Golden Bells for You and Me."

JUDGE WRIGHT: *Mr. Speaker*—By this act I welcome you and this body over whom you so acceptably preside, to our reunion. By this act I, to some extent, reunite the old with the new. Gentlemen, words are cheap, words are easy, but I can say to you that we welcome you cordially and greet you with sincere expressions of regard—and thanks that you have come to us this afternoon—but we wish to have you bear in mind and take away with you the thought that when I say this I mean it, and I know my every utterance will find a response in the breast of all who are members of this Association. (Applause.) Therefore, I beg you not to receive the words as merely from the lips, but to understand that the heart goes with them to you as Representatives of the State of Iowa. Gentlemen, we look to other States and other legislative bodies—we look to the transactions of other deliberative assemblies of other States, the actions of judicial and executive officials, and without one word of reproach to them, we come back to Iowa with this one happy reflection, there may be among them in the past this assembly or that assembly, this organization or that organization, political or otherwise, that would seek to go through the process of performing the funeral ceremony of burying the past record out of sight; but I am glad to know that in Iowa, taking the first Territorial Legislature, taking the first State Legislature, taking the three Constitutional Conventions, and all the legislation of all its assemblies since that time—thank God, we shall not have to perform any such ceremony as that (laughter); but we can stand before the world to-day and with our hands upon our hearts and our consciences clear before God, say we are proud of the past; we are confident of the present, and thank God we are not afraid of the future. (Applause.)

Gentlemen, as Representatives of the people of the State of Iowa at this time, I greet you. Our regret is that the other branch of the General Assembly could not accompany you, but we know full well that they are discharging their duties to their constituents, but while we feel disappointed that they did not come, we welcome you. And, Mr. Speaker, now as a representative of this body—shall I tell a word about you? (Voice—Speak it out! Tell it!) Gentlemen, you may not know that this is one of my boys, but he is. He was very anxious about his election—all gentlemen are—I have been there myself. He called to see me a few weeks before his election and expressed his anxiety; but I looked at him and said, "Oscar, you will be the next Speaker." He says: "Have you news to satisfy you upon the subject? I am very glad if you can assure me of my election." I said:

"No, I have heard nothing, but I am sure of it." He asked why, and I replied: "Because you were born in Van Buren county. (Applause.) I have the kindest feeling for those gentlemen who are opposing you; they ought to beat you, but they won't do it." Now, Mr. Speaker, having said this, I again greet you, and shall be glad to have you remain just as long as you can. We were loth somewhat to leave this Christian hall; we were somewhat loth to go over to the Capitol, but we thought it might be a good thing to get you over to this Young Men's Christian Association, especially your Speaker, because he needs such influences thrown around him.

MR. MITCHELL: *Gentlemen*—After hearing my father speak in the manner I have I have little hesitancy in addressing you. I think I may call him my godfather on more than one occasion. I remember a good many years ago of the Senator visiting my father and of the talks I heard between the two. Some of the capers they cut back in Indiana—I won't tell, I was just hinting at them!—but when the gentleman assured me of my election to the Speakership, and says that a Van Buren county man never fails, and went on and told me some of his experiences, I had no more anxiety about the matter after that.

We did not come to make a formal call; we came here informally this afternoon. We appreciate the welcome we have received. We are somewhat novices, some of us at least, and I think it is the desire of our body that we listen; we know that we can receive words of encouragement and wisdom and do not wish to break into your program; but without further ceremony would rather hear from the older members, those who have grown old in the service of the State. We thank you most cordially for the welcome you have given us. (Applause.)

THE CHAIR: I will now call upon Col. D. P. Stubbs, of Jefferson county.

EX-SENATOR STUBBS: *Mr. President and Pioneer Law-Makers*—I did not know just how ridiculous your President would make me in appearing before you on the stage, but supposed he would do it in a manner that would create some embarrassment. He knows I am a man of very great diffidence, and do not speak louder than my ordinary tone of voice as a general thing. I never get excited—am a kind of a moderate man, and very seldom speak; I am known as a modest man. I believe Judge Wright will endorse me in that. A timid man also, and I see others who will bear me out in that, with whom I have been associated in time past and gone. You do not know what kind of a fraud has been perpetrated on you. I came here as a listener, came here to learn and hear the transactions of the Legislatures of this State reviewed and talked about; to listen to what might be said by persons who are senior, who have been before me and who are pioneer legislators. My connection with the Legislature does not date back so far as most of you gentlemen; the Tenth and Eleventh General Assemblies were those in which I participated. I cannot go back and review as far as has been done by a great many. I have given the matter no thought; in fact I have hardly had time to think about what has been done, until I came to this Association. I find it is one of the most profitable two or three hours I ever spent in my life. I believe it should not only interest persons who were formerly members of the General Assembly, but that it should interest every person in the State; I think few things are of more importance than

reviewing the legislation, the growth, prosperity, and present position of the State of Iowa. I ought to say again that I have had no time to formulate a speech and know nothing about what I am going to say and cannot be responsible for anything I may say. My wife taught me not to be telling before an audience "I am not prepared." She says that is the most foolish thing in the world, because they will find that out right away. (Laughter.)

I recollect the winter of '63 and '64—I think this whole country remembers it. I believe impressions were made then that none of us will ever forget while we live. In the first place, during the last few days of '63, the greatest storm prevailed over the State of Iowa that we have ever known. Noting equal to it on record. The ice fell for two days. The ice fell in torrents until it was six or eight feet deep in many places. I left home very shortly after that storm for Des Moines. I didn't come on railroads. There had been no injunction served on the railroads, as my friend from Mahaska speaks of. Few railroads were further west than Ottumwa. Those who came from the western part of the State came in sleighs and wagons. Some of us very nearly froze to death coming through that storm, but we got here on time. War was raging in this country. The battle of Ft. Donelson had been fought only a few days before the Tenth General Assembly met. A great many thousands had been appropriated for the war, and a great many things told here this morning about the war Law-Makers had been done before that time; but we found a vast amount of work to do. We knew, however, that hundreds upon hundreds of families in that cold winter, whose fathers and sons and brothers were in the service of the country battling for the flag, were in a suffering condition. We hastened to pass a law levying two mills on the dollar to make appropriations that the Boards of Supervisors of the various counties might see were properly expended, and that no families of soldiers in the State of Iowa should suffer. It was something I espoused with a great deal of zeal, and I have never had time to regret it.

Everything was turned then toward the assistance of the soldiers in the field. News day after day of disaster and news of victories came to us from all over the country. It was a sad winter. There is no question about that. When '66 came that brought the Eleventh General Assembly, and it seemed everything had changed. The Rebellion had been put down; the flag had been vindicated. We had a flag that "waved o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave;" we had a country, and we believed a sacred flag, and we had sacred institutions. We met there believing we had a country, at least, by the proclamation of the President of the United States, and by common consent, freed from that foul curse, human slavery. We had hardly assembled until a joint resolution was introduced to ratify the XIII Amendment to the Constitution, a prohibition of slavery within the United States and their jurisdiction. That elicited no debate. I might say right here that, as I recollect, there were but five members of the Senate that did not belong to the Republican party, but I want to say upon the passage of that resolution, to the honor of the men who differed with us politically, every member of the Legislature voted for it and upon roll call placed his name in the affirmative on the Constitutional Amendment. (Applause.) And it is so emblazoned in the libraries all over the State.

Things that had been lying dormant in a material point of view during

the war seemed to have taken new life. Soldiers had returned and farms were being opened. People seeking homes from the eastern cities looked with anxious eyes to Iowa, and the six hundred thousand people we had here only a few years before began to grow one hundred thousand and two hundred thousand every year. All those great railroad grants, that had been given by the general government into the hands of Iowa as trustee to be appropriated, began to look around.

Some intended to abandon former roads, and the question came up with the representatives of the people whether these companies had not forfeited their rights to the railroad lands. Days and days were consumed in the House of Representatives by able men, debating the question whether it was not the right and the duty of the State of Iowa to resume and take from the railroads, in a great many instances, the grants that had been made. Some of the members of that General Assembly were of the opinion, that when the grant was made the title was vested somewhere, and if not, was still in the United States, and any legislation that could take place by the State of Iowa would not, and could not affect the title to these lands at all; that it was a judicial, rather than a legislative question. Then, again, we had the Des Moines river grant. A magnificent grant of lands had been made for the improvement of the Des Moines river, to build locks and dams. Companies had been organized, and they progressed year after year, and spent money to dam the river, and most effectually dammed it, and dammed navigation. It was considerable of a dammed concern for the Legislature to unravel. The railroad companies wanted the land, and the State had paid about one hundred and twenty thousand dollars to those persons who had been employed by the State, in order to make these improvements. The Keokuk & Ft. Dodge road was organized. We passed a law giving the lands to them, taking them from the river improvement grant. They were to go to work and pay off this one hundred and twenty thousand dollars before the grant should be effectual. They turned up their noses at the idea. When the Eleventh General Assembly met we gave the lands back to them again, with the proviso in the law, as many of you know, that the census board, I believe, should make selections of the best lands and sell sufficient of them to pay off the debt, and they might have the remainder. They clearly saw in that question of legislation that it meant business, and they came forward and paid the amount requested, took the lands, and so it was all adjusted. But, perhaps this is not interesting to you, and my time is limited. As a matter of course, we are proud, as has been said by our President, of almost everything that has been done in the State of Iowa. You may look to the east, you may look to the west, you may look to the north and to the south, and you see that there has been legislation and management within the State of Iowa that has not been detrimental, to say the least of it. Many of you gentlemen, who now represent the people in the lower branch of the Legislature, came to this State long since these things transpired. Why did you come? You felt we had a good State, a good climate and good soil; you thought, then, that we believed in education, and you are certain of it to-day. Here stands Iowa with two million people, nearly eight thousand miles of railroads, fifty-five thousand square miles of as fine land as there is, perhaps, in the world; thirty-five million acres of land, and all of it can be tilled, and we owe nothing as a State.

Now, Mr. President, this is the first time I have attended one of these Associations, but I hope it will not be the last time. If I live, I will try to be here again, and I believe all ought to be here, not only those who participated in the legislation of the country, but others as well.

I hope you will take this as an excuse for a speech, and if we are here next year and the President shall call upon me, I will try to do better than to-day. (Applause.)

MR. MOIR: *Mr. Chairman, Brother Pioneer Law-Makers, and Members of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly*—Permit me to say that it is with pleasure that I, as an humble member of the Ninth and Tenth General Assemblies, greet you and meet you here this afternoon. This has truly been a love feast to me. It seems as though I never enjoyed the speaking and singing as I have to-day, and I want to say to these younger men—not all young, but a great deal younger than we with gray heads are—for when I look on this side and on that, I see quite a difference. Thirty years make many changes. Think of it! Thirty years ago I tried to do my humble duty in making laws for this grand State of ours. I presume some of you were not then born. When I see how youthful you look, and how gray and bald we look on the other side, the difference is noticeable; but, gentlemen, you have a duty to perform as well as we in the early days of our State, and I have no doubt you will perform that duty faithfully and well. No doubt, you will do what you can as we tried to do in those early days, to increase the prosperity of this grand commonwealth of ours. It can be truly said that no State in this grand Nation excels our own, and the man who lives in the State of Iowa and is not proud of Iowa, ought to be kicked across either one river or the other by the meanest man in the State. (Applause.) Iowa, first in acres of tillable land; first in corn, hogs and horses; and first in the intelligence of her people, there being only two and four-tenths per cent of illiteracy in this State—no other State in the Nation can boast the like, only two and four-tenths of her adult population who cannot read!

In peace and plenty, throned serene,
Sits Iowa! Our "Prairie Queen,"
Adorned with every frugal gift,
And all the garniture of thrift
To cheer her sons and daughters true,
And blessings in their pathway strew.
She foremost stood in '62,
When Lincoln called for boys in blue,
And when they laid their arms aside
She felt they had been true and tried.
Her wisdom is excelled by none,
In any land beneath the sun.

Her twenty-six thousand school teachers are disseminating knowledge throughout the State. She stands second in the number of teachers in the States of the Union—New York being first. May we not be proud of this grand State of ours? I do not know whether you have as much fun as we used to have in '62 and '64 or not. We had lots of it then! We used to get together and have parties once in a while, and those who were inclined to dance would have a little dance, and those who were inclined to have a game of whist would have a game of whist. The hospitality of the people of Des Moines was unbounded at that time, and hardly a week passed that

we were not invited to some of the hospitable homes of the citizens of Des Moines. It won't do to tell of all the laughable scenes we had.

You, no doubt, remember that along in the early part of the war nothing but disaster met the Union armies. The 14th day of February, 1862, you remember, no doubt, Commodore Foote was repulsed and quite a number of our brave Union men were slain before Fort Donelson. On the 16th day of February, Gen. Buckner sued for terms, and you, no doubt, remember Gen. Grant's reply to him, that he would give no terms but "immediate and unconditional surrender." You remember how Gen. Buckner sent back word, "I accept your ungracious and ungenerous terms," and he did accept and surrender on those terms with fourteen thousand, six hundred and twenty-three prisoners. Then the telegraphic wires spread the good news all over our country. On the 16th day of February a resolution was passed in the House and Senate complimenting the Iowa soldiers for their bravery in that action, and well it was, for our Iowa boys, led by our gallant General Tuttle, were the first to mount the ramparts of the enemy. It was glorious news to us. The gallant Baker and the grand old war governor, Samuel Kirkwood, extended an invitation to the members of the General Assembly to meet them at what was then known as the old Des Moines House. We went there, and in the dining-room tables were spread throughout its length and breadth, heaped with everything. We had a little—well, prohibition was not quite as well enforced as it is now—it was perhaps sweet cider, although it might have been stronger, but our spirits were about as high as they could be before we had anything to drink. We had to tell a story, sing a song, or make a speech. That was the order of the evening. During the course of the afternoon Governor Kirkwood, God bless him, was called upon to make some remarks. It will be remembered that the Governor never had any children. The Governor made his speech apply to the recent unpleasantness we had had with Great Britain. He says, "I will do everything I can to avenge the wrong, and I will teach my children, if ever I have any"—at that moment up jumped the Senator from Dallas, and said, as he brought his fist down on the table, "*Governor, you shall have.* I now move that the seventh commandment be suspended for your special benefit." It is needless to say it was seconded and carried unanimously. It was not long after that before we adjourned.

I tell you, gentlemen, that was a time long to be remembered. I wish you all good health and prosperity. May you old Pioneer Law-Makers live long and prosper, and may our grand and glorious State continue to thrive and prosper as day after day rolls into the immensity of eternity. (Applause.)

Music: Violins—"Woodland Whisper Waltzes."

MR. COFFIN: *Mr. Chairman*—I can assure you that the visit you gave us yesterday was so delightful that it was impossible for us to refrain from accepting your kind invitation to be with you to-day. I notice that we forgot to bring with us the youngest member of the House, the Hon. Mr. Wilson, of Madison county. We intended to bring him and plant him right in the midst of your honorable body, where, on account of his youth and beauty he properly belongs. I wish to assure you that your visit had a pleasant influence. We have not passed an act suppressing prize-fighting as some of our

contests might indicate would be necessary, and the influence of your presence over our entire body acted like a benediction. We forgot to call up the special order, and it never occurred to the Honorable Speaker of the House to leave his chair and take the floor. Gentlemen, we recognize that you laid the foundations of this great State; but I rather suspect from some of the bills my colleagues have introduced that they think you did not lay it well. But I wish to assure you that the conservative members of our body think that you did. We trust that we will leave the State intact and that the monuments which you erected may be enjoyed by the generations to come.

You spoke something in regard to preserving in the archives, something you have in preparation. I believe the members of this House will cheerfully preserve intact anything you may have, in order that it may be published for the coming generations who are to follow us to see. (Applause.)

Now, gentlemen, if there is anything very disastrous about to occur to the State because of the acts of the General Assembly now in session, I wish to assure you that it will not be because of failure on our part to try and emulate your illustrious example. We are proud of the fact that you preceded us, and it is our highest ambition to prove worthy of the trust that has fallen upon us. (Applause.)

THE CHAIR: I am sure that we will be glad to hear from Mr. Springer, from the old Capital, and the State University town.

MR. SPRINGER: *Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen*—I had probably best begin by saying I did not expect to say anything, and emulate the good example of my friend Stubbs; but not being able to do that as gracefully as he can, I have devoted part of my time since I have been here to inquiring into the elements of popularity which grew up around the Pioneer Law-Makers, to distinguish them from the modern law makers, applying in confidence to one of the old law makers the other day and asking him how, in those days of record-making, he managed the roll call. When a member looks at the roll call and wonders how his constituents will look at it, he sometimes wishes he had voted the other way. This old law-maker told me he was troubled the same way. When he went home, to face those terrible constituents and prove to them he was the proper man to again represent them in the Legislature, he counted over the votes he had cast as preserved in the Journal and found he had voted aye twelve times and no one hundred and seventy times. He assured his constituents that in the one hundred and seventy votes he had made one mistake, and in the twelve votes he had made seven mistakes, and that if they would return him he would vote no every time. I do not know how it turned out; he declined to tell me, but I presume it worked all right. I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the Pioneer Law Makers may look back on a good record well done. I believe, as far as I can judge, that aside from the laws that relate to the outgrowths of inventions and science and a few changes that come in modern social politics—that aside from these, the body of law stands to-day very nearly as you left it. And if I may judge from the reports of the committees, and the frequency with which indefinite postponement occurs, that the body of the law is very likely to remain much the same. It is a good record. It shows good work well done, and if the little that we may add shall secure to us in after

years a share in that good record you have made, it will be to us as it must be to you, a privilege and a pleasure to look back to it and the times when we were associated with the law makers of Iowa. (Applause.)

The time having arrived for final adjournment, at the suggestion of the President, Hon. George G. Wright, the members of the Association joined hands in a circle and sang "Old Lang Syne."

The President then declared the Reunion of 1892 adjourned *sine die*.

LETTERS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS.

HON. JAMES HARLAN.

MOUNT PLEASANT, January 9, 1892.

My Dear Judge Wright—Since the receipt of your kind and complimentary note of the eleventh ult. asking me to write a paper to be read before the Pioneer Law-Makers at their next meeting, I have been confined to my room with a severe attack of *la grippe* and utterly unable to keep up even my correspondence. I am some better now and my doctor says in a fair way to be well again before so very long. I am, however, not able yet to leave my room, and therefore think it improbable that I shall be able to prepare the paper suggested by you. I regret this very much as I would be very glad to do anything I could to add even slightly to the interest of the meeting.

With great respect and esteem, your obedient servant,

JAS. HARLAN.

HON. W. W. CHAPMAN.

PORTLAND, OREGON, February 3, 1892.

To the President and Members of the Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers, at the Third Biennial Reunion at Des Moines, on February 10th and 11th inst.:

MY DEAR FRIENDS—Your circular invitation was received a few days since. Nothing on earth at this time would give me more pleasure than to attend the reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers, but it is impossible for me to do so for the reason that three years ago, the 3d of November last, I received a stroke of paralysis by which I lost the use of all my right side, from my foot to my neck, leaving my head and left side, leg and arm, untouched. But having lost the use of two fingers of my left hand in the cold water of the mines in 1848, I have to do my writing with the thumb and two fingers of my left hand. In the winter I am confined to my room and chair, and in summer I ride to town in my wheel chair and am carried up to the Federal Court to attend to some important land cases.

In looking over your circular I see the names of Hon. G. W. Jones, Hon. Theodore S. Parvin, Hon. Geo. G. Wright and others, to whom I tender my warmest congratulations.

I understand that General Jones and myself are the only living members of the Congress of 1838-'40.

Wishing you a pleasant and happy reunion, with many happy years to come, I am your sincere friend,

W. W. CHAPMAN.

EX-CHIEF-JUSTICE JOHN F. KINNEY.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, February 3, 1892.

Hon. Geo. G. Wright, Des Moines, Iowa: MY DEAR JUDGE—I had indulged a faint hope of being present at the Third Biennial Reunion of the Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers, February 10th and 11th, at Des Moines, but by reason of business engagements was obliged to abandon this cherished hope.

When this conclusion was reached I determined to prepare a paper and send it to you to be read before the meeting, giving some unwritten historical facts pertaining to the early organization of the courts of Iowa, but more especially reminiscences of the Supreme Court during the incumbency of Judges Williams, Green and myself in 1847 to 1854. To this end some four weeks ago I addressed a letter to Nathaniel K. Raymond, Reporter to the Supreme Court at your city, asking him to furnish me with some facts and references which I had communicated to him by letter, of which I had not retained a copy, and which are essential to the preparation of my paper, but I regret to add that the information sought, Mr. Raymond only furnished by his letter just received, under date of the 26th ult., too late to formulate a paper in time to reach the meeting.

With kindest regards to yourself and all others of the "early days," I remain,

Truly your friend,

JOHN F. KINNEY.

HON. SAMUEL H. FAIRALL—TELEGRAM.

IOWA CITY, Feb. 10, 1892.

To Hon. Geo. G. Wright, and others—Death in my family precludes my being with you. Convey to the surviving Pioneers present my deep regret for my inability to meet the many friends among them, my high appreciation of being numbered with them, and my sincere wish that their days may yet be many in the State to whose prosperity and greatness their labors and wisdom have so largely contributed.

S. H. FAIRALL.

HON. EDWARD H. STILES.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 9, 1892.

Hon. Geo. G. Wright, Des Moines, Iowa: MY DEAR SIR—I deeply regret to inform you that it will be impossible for me to be with you at the Reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers. Some three weeks ago Judge Henry of the Circuit Court was taken seriously ill, and under the statute of Missouri an election by the members of the bar was called and held, which resulted in my being pretty unanimously elected to preside as judge until Judge Henry's recovery. This is my third week and it would seem from the present outlook that I may have to continue for some time. I counted much on the satisfaction I should have in attending the reunion, in grasping the hands of old acquaintances and seeing in person those distinguished relics of the olden times, Judge John F. Kinney and Judge S. Clinton Hastings, whose names are to the old lawyers as familiar as household words.

Will you be so good as to send me papers containing a report of the proceedings, addresses, etc.

Yours very truly,

EDWARD H. STILES.

GEN. BYRON A. BEESON.

January 29, 1892.

Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers, Des Moines, Iowa: GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of invitation to attend your "Third Biennial Reunion," at Des Moines, Feb. 10, 1892, and regret exceedingly my inability to be present on account of a business engagement that will call me from the city on that date. Thanking you for your courtesy I am,

Very truly yours,

BYRON A. BEESON,
Treasurer of State.

HON. IRA H. TREMAINE.

TREMAINE, IOWA, February 8, 1892.

Hon. Charles Aldrich, Des Moines, Iowa: DEAR SIR—I have received from your committee an invitation to attend your meeting of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa. Thanks; I greatly regret that I cannot be with you. In my early school days there was no place noted in geography in Wisconsin and Iowa except Green Bay and Prairie du Chien. I very well remember Geo. W. Jones as the Delegate to Congress from Wisconsin and Iowa, and above all other men of the Pioneers I should be glad to see him and hear his address.

I have pleasant recollections of your associates, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Van Steenburg. Please give them my regards. Yours, respectfully,

IRA H. TREMAINE.

S. G. MATSON.

VIOLA, LINN COUNTY, IOWA, Feb. 8, 1892.

Hon. Geo. G. Wright, Hon. B. F. Gue and Hon. P. M. Casady, Committee.

GENTS—I received the circular notifying me of the Third Biennial Reunion of the old Pioneer Law-Makers at Des Moines, on the 10th and 11th of this month.

It would give me great pleasure to be with you on that occasion, but I think it is not prudent for me to venture out at this season, during the present epidemic which is proving so fatal among old people.

I see by the program that a number of the old Pioneers, whom the people of Iowa have ever delighted to honor, are to address the convention orally, or by letter. It would do my *old Pioneer heart* good to meet and greet them *all*. Wishing you all a happy reunion I remain

Yours fraternally,

S. G. MATSON.

P. S.—Mrs. Matson wishes to send greeting, not as an old Pioneer Law-Maker, but as a Pioneer Butter-Maker.

S. G. M.

HON. ROBERT SMYTH.

MOUNT VERNON, IOWA, February 7, 1892.

To the President or Chairman of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association, Des Moines, Iowa:

DEAR SIR—I intended to go to Des Moines to-day to attend the annual meeting of your Association, but I find it impossible to do so. I know I would enjoy the occasion very much. I trust you will have a large attendance and an enjoyable time.

I am one of the early law-makers. I was elected to the House of Representatives of the Territorial Legislature in the fall of 1843, from Cedar, Jones and Linn counties, with Mr. Walworth. I served during the winter of 1843-44, and an extra session in the summer of 1844.

I was also elected to the House of Representatives in the First General Assembly of Iowa from Sioux county. I served during the winter and also during an extra session in 1847.

In 1867 I was elected Senator from Sioux county for four years and was a member of the Senate during the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies of the State.

I was also elected to the House of Representatives in 1883, and represented Linn county in the Twentieth General Assembly when the prohibitory law was passed. I was Chairman of the Committee on Suppression of Intemperance.

Please present my regrets to the Association for absence.

I am sincerely your friend,

ROBERT SMYTH.

HON. N. M. HUBBARD.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, February 5, 1892.

Hon. Geo. G. Wright, Des Moines, Iowa: MY DEAR JUDGE—I received your note several days ago, asking me to make a talk at your Pioneer Law-Makers' Association meeting, which I think, occurs next week. I regret to say that I shall be unable to be present on account of professional engagements. I go to Clinton Monday morning to try a personal injury case which will take several days. I should be delighted to be present; not so much to make a speech, as to see the gentleman who laid the foundations broad and deep in the State of Iowa for our present prosperity and greatness.

Thanking you for your kind invitation, I am, etc.,

N. M. HUBBARD.

HON. HENRY CLAY HENDERSON.

BOULDER, COL., January 28, 1892.

Hon. George G. Wright, Des Moines, Iowa: DEAR SIR—I received announcement program and invitation for and to the Third Biennial Reunion of Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers, under cover, bearing your well known hand in the address to me.

I am glad to be remembered so by one of my oldest personal friends in Iowa; and only imperative necessity obliges me to deny myself the very great pleasure with which I would join you all in recounting the past, with

the associates and friends who will gather from far and near, on that occasion.

I love Iowa and am proud of her achievements. Her pioneer settlers and law-makers laid broad foundations for her people to build on, and the superstructure of her social and political institutions has risen to such dimensions, perfection and beauty, as challenges the admiration of the world.

I am glad to have had my lot cast in that goodly land, and to have had some humble part in the development of its resources and the growth of its institutions.

No State can boast of greater wisdom and purity in the administration of its public affairs; of greater integrity uniformly marking the execution of its judicial and legislative functions; nor intelligence of a higher order than has characterized her people; and, now standing at the head of the advancing column of civilization, her Pioneer Law-Makers may well assemble and commemorate her achievements, and rejoice in the successes, under direction of a benignant Providence, of the labor of their hands, their heads and their hearts.

I greet and congratulate the Assembly: Hail Iowa—equal to the best and second to none: Hail and Farewell.

H. C. HENDERSON,
Senator Tenth and Eleventh General Assembly.

HON. HADLEY D. JOHNSON.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, January 25, 1892.

Hon. P. M. Casady: DEAR SIR—I am in receipt of an invitation to attend the Third Biennial Reunion of the Pioneer Law Makers' Association of Iowa, to be held in your city next month.

It would afford me much pleasure to be able to meet you at the time and place indicated, but considering the inclemency of the weather and my unreliable state of health, it would hardly be prudent for me to make the attempt.

Wishing you all a continuance of such health as will enable you to enjoy the reunion of 1892 and many more, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HADLEY D. JOHNSON,

HON. COLE NOEL.

ADEL, IOWA, Feb. 10, 1892.

Hon. Geo. G. Wright: MY DEAR SIR—I have been confined to the house for over two months with the grippe, for the last few days up to yesterday was feeling much better, and was making arrangements to be in Des Moines to-day, but this morning not able to be up. I have been looking forward for days and anticipating the pleasure of meeting many old friends with whom I made an acquaintance in 1870. George, you will have to admit that the Thirteenth General Assembly was composed of men of brains; such men as the Browns, Newbold, Dudley, McCown, Butler, Stone, Cutts, Lacy, Mahin, Green, Irish, Kasson, Tama Jim, O'Donnell, Pratt, Huff, Hunter, Tufts, Cotton, Parsons, Russell, Murdock, and others that I don't now remember. Should you meet any of the above please give them my kind

regards, and don't tell them that old Cole Noel is at home suffering for his past sins, for I tell you, George, I only did one mean thing that I can now call to mind during that session, and that was my vote for United States Senator.

Respectfully yours,

COLE NOEL.

FROM HON. J. W. JENKINS.

KANSAS CITY, MO., February 6, 1892.

Hon. Ed. Wright: MY DEAR SIR—Mr. Calvin handed me a program of the third meeting of the Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers and your invitation to be present at the meeting. I assure you it would give me great pleasure to be present and participate in that meeting but circumstances will prevent. I am proud to have been a citizen of Iowa, and, as an American citizen, am proud of her as one of the brightest stars in the great constellation of American States. In this age of astonishing achievements she has been in the front rank in the march of progress, and nowhere on the face of the earth, are the true principles of enlightened civilization better illustrated and applied to the purposes of practical life than within her borders. Her citizens have been among the foremost in the National Judiciary, Legislature, in the Cabinet, at the bar, in the field and in every department of scientific knowledge, but the foundation for all the prosperity and greatness of the State is the sturdy, intelligent and energetic population, from whose ranks come the men who have given prominence and lustre to her name.

I trust that circumstances will permit me to be present at some future meeting of your Association, but each succeeding meeting will mark the absence of many with whom I would like once more to meet.

Yours in haste,

J. W. JENKINS.

N. W. Cor. Fifth and Main Sts.

HON. HENRY O'CONNOR.

SIoux CITY, IOWA, February 2, 1892.

My Dear Judge, or Senator, as the case may be amongst the ancient Law-Makers who are to congregate at Des Moines on the 10th instant—I have received your kind invitation, accompanied with program of proceedings, menu of banquet, etc., intimating a wish that I should be present on that occasion of promised pleasure—especially the banquet. The condition of the roads between this metropolitan city and your charming village at or in the bosom of the Raccoon Forks of the Des Moines, the press of business, the state of my health, and other circumstances, all conspire to forbid my attempting to reach the enjoyment of that feast of season and flow of mellow, mild and rich "potheen," which I feel assured will abound and overflow at that happy meeting, when history will once more repeat itself; but I will none the less anticipate in conception with listening ear and watering mouth, the yet untold delights of that meeting of the "Apostles."

What splendid and resplendent memories the evening of the 11th of February, *Anno Domino*, eighteen hundred and ninety-two, will make their translucent effulgence, will put to shame the brazen dome of the Capitol in its childish efforts to vie with the full moon.

In days still more ancient than those of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa,

men tried, single handed, to give laws to their fellows. Moses, Lycurgus and Solon, are notable examples of the futility of such vain individual efforts. Caligula and Chas. Ben. Darwin essayed their personal endeavors in the same line, but with no better success than Moses or Solon. Caligula, the text of whose laws was so plain that he who ran might read, was careful to publish the law on the top of a telegraph pole so that the breaker of the law couldn't see even the lines. Darwin was spared that heavy expense by the undecipherable character of his chirography. It remained, however, for the collective representative wisdom of the Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, to give us the Blue Book of 1839, in all native simplicity and its more pretentious follower, the Revision of 1843. There we found our rules for civil government on the frontier and, as we poured over their well-thumbed pages and trembled at their denunciations, we found our sole consolation in the evidence these laws afforded of their makers' innocence of the law. Well, later Law-Makers have tried — vain effort — to emulate, they couldn't imitate you. Save as an honorary member I never was a law-maker, but lawyers, after all, have to make laws. My feeble efforts in that direction were, I regret to confess, spent in aiding and abetting that proverbial enemy of all law, the Supreme Court of the commonwealth, the silk gown members of which august tribunal never read and seldom listen. The Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa are mostly gone. Peace to their ashes. Prayers sometimes for the living, always for the departed. To those who are still left *Dominus vobiscum!* You all need Him.

HENRY O'CONNOR.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

NOTE.—[As heretofore, the following sketches of members of the Association have been, for the most part, made up from data furnished by themselves, upon the printed blanks distributed among them at the last meeting, or compiled from the histories of counties. It is a matter of regret that responses were not received from more of the members, and that all were not given in greater detail. But these brief biographies are happily supplemented by a few sketches, which have been prepared at greater length by Messrs. Gue, Parvin, and others, of men who acted most important parts in public life, at critical periods in our history. The Secretary, by request, has also included his own sketch of Hon. Theodore S. Parvin.]

THOMAS BALLINGER.—He was born in Ohio, December 21, 1817, and settled in Oskaloosa, Mahaska County, in 1850. His profession is that of a clergyman of the Universalist denomination. The only public offices he ever held were those of Justice of the Peace, and member of the House of Representatives of the Twelfth General Assembly. He was commissioned Chaplain of a militia regiment in Logan county, Ohio, by Governor Thomas Corwin, in 1841. He retired from his profession several years ago, though he still performs more or less ministerial work. Mr. Ballinger is a well preserved, genial, large-hearted, Christain gentleman, whom it is always a pleasure to meet; a ready speaker, who is in demand at social gatherings like the Reunions of the Old Soldiers and Pioneer Law-Maker's Association of Iowa. Politically he has been identified with the Republican party.

GEORGE W. BEMIS.—Mr. Bemis was born in the State of Massachusetts, on the 13th day of October, 1826. He came to Independence, Buchanan County, and settled in 1854, at which place he still resides. In the autumn of 1859 he was elected a Representative in the State Legislature, serving also at the extra session of 1861. He was chosen to the State Senate of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth General Assemblies. In 1876 he was elected State Treasurer, and re-elected in 1878, serving four years in that very responsible position. He was the first Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Buchanan County, being chosen to that position when the law creating the supervisor system went into effect. To all these positions he was chosen as a representative man of the Republican party. On Mr. Bemis' first appearance in the Legislature, he took a prominent position, though he was almost a silent member so far as speech was concerned. He introduced an important bill relating to the duties of County Surveyor, which, we believe, became the law of the State. He was especially active and determined in the fight against the continuance of the old County Judge rule and in favor of superseding it by the more popular and representative supervisor system. Mr. Bemis has discharged every trust committed to his charge with rare ability and fidelity, and has always enjoyed the highest confidence and esteem of those who know him best.

NORMAN BOARDMAN.—The subject of our sketch was born at Morris-town, Vermont, April 30, 1813. His ancestor, seven generations before, came over from England and purchased of the Indians, in 1639, a large tract of land near where Weathersfield, Connecticut, now stands. Norman was raised on a farm, and was educated in the public schools. Before he was seventeen years of age he began to teach school, working on his father's farm during the summer season. When twenty years of age he took a course in Johnson's Academy, graduating in the class with Russell Page, father of the present Governor of Vermont. Before settling down to business, in company with other young men, he started in May, 1837, on a trip to the Western States, traveling by canals, stage coach, lake and river steamers. They landed at Chicago, then a village of 2,500 inhabitants, located on a wet, swampy prairie. Upon his return he entered upon the study of law, and practiced for many years in his native State. In 1849, he was elected prosecuting attorney. In 1852 he came to Iowa and entered several sections of land. In 1855, he moved his family to Iowa, and settled at Lyons. With a few friends he went to Mitchell county, purchased land and laid out a town which they named "O. Sage," after Oren Sage, of Ware, Mass. Soon after the name of the new town was spelled "Osage." In 1861, he was elected State Senator on the Republican ticket, for Clinton county, and at the session of 1862 was made Chairman of the Committee on Schools and University. He was largely instrumental in revising the school laws. There were \$400,000 uncollected taxes at that time, and the Governor suggested to the Legislature the propriety of turning over the school funds to the State Treasury, for use in paying current expenses and paying interest on the loan thus made to the School Fund. Senator Boardman resisted the proposition so strongly that it was defeated, and proposed amendments to the revenue laws which remedied the trouble, and secured the prompt collection of taxes thereafter. Mr. Boardman was a warm friend of the State Agricultural College, and in the effort that was made to divert the land grant from the College to the State University, he earnestly sustained Senators B. F. Gue and C. F. Clarkson, who led the opposition to the diversion. Senator Boardman was the author of the proposition to organize the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association, and was a leading member of the first reunion, which on February 24 and 25, 1886, was held in Des Moines, and which resulted, in 1890, in permanently establishing this Association.

LEMUEL R. BOLTER.—He was born July 27, 1834, in Richland County, Ohio. His family was of Scotch descent, tracing their history back to Leonard Bolter, Sen., who was born in Edinburg in 1678, and emigrated to America, in 1715. His grandfather was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was wounded in the battle of Brandywine. He received a buck shot in his knee which he carried to the end of his days. The old patriot, Lemuel, was buried in Richland township, Cass County, Ohio, in 1841, and in 1890 the subject of this paragraph erected a monument over his grave. Lemuel R. was educated in the common and graded schools and at Hillsdale College. He first engaged in teaching, but in 1852 crossed the plains to California. Here he followed clerking and for a short time mining, but returned in 1854 to Michigan—having acquired money sufficient to buy a good farm. The following spring he entered the law office of C. S. Coffinbury, at Constantine, where

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he remained two years. During this time he was married to Caroline J. Rinehart, a native of that State. After leaving the law office he divided his time between trading and legal practice until 1864, when he emigrated to Harrison County, Iowa, where he has since resided. Since coming to this State no man has surpassed him in activity, and few, if any, in public usefulness. Politically, he is a pronounced Democrat, and has always been prominent in the councils of his party. He was first chosen to the Iowa House of Representatives in 1863. This was the Eleventh General Assembly. He was also elected a member of the House in the Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth General Assemblies. His constituents then promoted him to the Senate where he was continued through the Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth General Assemblies—a length of active service seldom equaled in any State. He is an able speaker, a ready debater, a vigilant, alert legislator, the originator of many good measures, inclined to conservatism and care when money is proposed to be expended, but eminently and always fair and judicious. In the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Legislatures he gave much and earnest effort to the establishment of the Historical Department at the Capitol. He is a man of large and varied information, as ready with his pen as upon the rostrum or in legislative debates.

J. M. BROWNE.—This legislator and soldier was born in Pennsylvania, in 1820. He settled in St. Charles, Madison County, Iowa, in 1855, where he still resides. He has held various minor offices since he came to this State, and in 1865 was elected to a seat in the House of Representatives. His profession is that of a farmer. Politically he has been a Republican. He helped raised the 39th Iowa Infantry, in which he was commissioned Captain of Company F. He participated in many battles and skirmishes, and was wounded in the affair at Parker's Cross Roads, Tenn., December 31, 1862.

DANIEL DARROW CHASE.—This well-known jurist of twenty-five years ago was born at Canajoharie, N. Y., July 4, 1830. He died at Webster City, April 27, 1891. He was a nephew of the distinguished Daniel Cady, one of the foremost New York lawyers and jurists of the first half of this century. He was educated at the Oneida Conference Seminary, and for a time was himself Principal of the Academy. After quitting this work he studied law in the office of Judge Cady. He entered upon the practice of the law in his native State upon the completion of his legal studies, but finally emigrated to Iowa, settling at Webster City, in the spring of 1858. In 1860 he was elected to the old State Board of Education. In 1861, a vacancy having occurred in the office of Prosecuting Attorney for the 11th Judicial District, he was elected for the unexpired portion of the term. There being some doubt about the regularity of this election, the next Legislature passed a law confirming the action of the people. In 1865 he was appointed District Judge to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Porter. He was afterwards twice elected to fill this position, but declined the nomination for a fourth term. He was a most acceptable and popular Judge, and few, if any, of his decisions were ever set aside by the higher court. One of his decisions became a real "point in history," and he deserves to be remembered for it. This was his decision confirming the validity of the so-called "granger laws," relating to the control of railroad corporations by the

State. This was the first judicial determination of this great question in Iowa, and it is believed to have been the first on record. It was fully sustained by the Supreme Court of the United States. It will always remain one of the prominent land-marks in the history of these corporations. While on the bench the murderer Stanley, of Story county, was tried in his court. The murder was at once cold-blooded, premeditated, brutal, and utterly devoid of palliation—a case of systematic “lying in wait.” Stanley was convicted of murder in the first degree and Judge Chase sentenced him to be hung—the last instance in which this penalty was fixed by an Iowa Judge. Frantic appeals at once arose for a commutation of the sentence, which Governor Carpenter refused to do—the Legislature being in session and competent to change the law, should it be so inclined. If a man ever deserved to be hanged, this culprit did. The Quakers and many women went actively to work and the result was the enactment of a law for the abolition of capital punishment. Stanley was sent to the penitentiary, where he still abides. At a subsequent session the law was again changed so that the jury prescribes the penalty in capital cases, and thus it remains at this time. Judge Chase was elected State Senator from the district composed of Hamilton and Hardin Counties in 1877—serving during the sessions of 1878 and 1880. After retiring from the Senate he resumed the practice of the law, in which he was rapidly acquiring a large business at the time he was overtaken by the illness which ended his days. His death was appropriately noticed by the Supreme Court of the State. Resolutions were adopted and eulogies were pronounced by Hon. Messrs. Charles A. Clarke, John F. Duncombe and others.

MAJOR GENERAL SAMUEL R. CURTIS.—He was born in New York, February 3, 1807. He removed, when a child, with his parents, to Ohio and graduated at the U. S. Military Academy in 1831. He was Colonel of the Second Ohio Volunteers in the Mexican War, 1846–7, and Military Governor of Saltillo, Mexico, in 1847–8. He settled at Keokuk, Iowa, in 1855. He was elected to Congress on the Republican ticket in 1857, and remained in Congress until 1861. When the war of the Rebellion began, he resigned his seat and was made Colonel of the Second Iowa Volunteers. In May of the same year he was promoted to Brigadier-General. In December he was placed in command of the southwestern district of Missouri. In March, 1862, he commanded the Union Army in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and won a victory over the Confederate Army under command of Generals Price and McCollough. He was promoted to Major-General after this victory, and held important commands until the close of the war. He died at Council Bluffs, December 26, 1866.

WARREN SCOTT DUNGAN.—A native of Pennsylvania, he was born at Frankfort Springs, Beaver County, September 12, 1822. He began the study of the law in the office of Matt. Quay, since conspicuous as United States Senator. After having been admitted to the bar, Mr. Dungan removed to Iowa, settling at Chariton, Lucas County, June 4, 1856, where he has since resided. From that time to the present he has been closely identified with the general development of his adopted State. The space here allotted is too limited to more than mention some of the many public capacities in which he has ably served his fellow citizens. In 1861 he was nominated by the Republicans

for State Senator and was elected; he served during one session and then entered the Union Army as a private soldier. He was soon after commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the Thirty-fourth Iowa Volunteers. He also served as Inspector-General of the Thirteenth Army Corps, on the staff of Major-General Andrews. He participated in actions at Chickasaw Bayou with Sherman, in December, 1862; the siege of Vicksburg until its capture, July 4, 1863; Yazoo City, Mississippi; Alexandria, Louisiana; Fort Esperanza, Texas; Fort Blakely, and the last operations in the rear of Mobile. After the Civil war, he returned to the practice of his profession. In 1879 he was elected to represent Lucas county in the House of the Eighteenth General Assembly. He was again elected as State Senator in 1887, serving with distinction in the Twenty-second and Twenty-third General Assemblies. He was a Delegate to the National Republican Convention, held at Philadelphia in 1872; also a Grant Elector the same year for the Seventh Congressional District of Iowa. He was the first City Solicitor of Chariton, Iowa, being elected without regard to party politics. In whatever position he has filled he has discharged his duties with such ability that he has either succeeded himself or been promoted to a higher place at the hands of his constituents. His genius has been seen throughout his State as among the foremost of its law-makers, and his good judgment has been exercised in scores of instances wherein the welfare of the present and future generations were in question. Among his works may be named the four important Amendments to the Constitution of this State, which he introduced in the Nineteenth General Assembly. These were passed through his efforts by the Nineteenth and Twentieth General Assemblies, and afterwards approved by the people by majorities ranging from 20,000 to 70,000. They are important and radical changes in our organic law—historical events—and they would seem to be based upon that great element of law known as “common sense.”

AMENDMENT 1. The general election for State, District, County, and Township officers shall be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November.

AMENDMENT 2. At any regular session of the General Assembly the State may be divided into the necessary Judicial districts for district court purposes, or the said districts may be reorganized and the number of the districts and the Judges of said court increased or diminished; but no reorganization of the districts or diminution of the Judges shall have the effect of removing a Judge from office.

AMENDMENT 3. The Grand Jury may consist of any number of members not less than five nor more than fifteen, as the General Assembly may by law provide, or the General Assembly may provide for holding persons to answer for any criminal offense without the intervention of a Grand Jury.

AMENDMENT 4. The qualified electors of each County shall, at the general election in the year 1886, and every two years thereafter, elect a County Attorney, who shall be a resident of the County for which he is elected, and who shall hold his office for two years and until his successor shall have been elected and qualified.

In addition to the above, Col. Dungan was one of the earliest supporters of the proposition for the establishment of a Historical Department in our Capitol. In this work he labored unceasingly until the law was passed.

Whatever cause he espouses, finds in him a friend always to be depended upon. His aid in founding our grand system of benevolent and charitable institutions has always been of the highest value, looking not only to the present care of the unfortunate, but to the future demands upon the State. Few men are as fortunate in making a consistent and enviable record of public usefulness. His friends, when his merits are discussed, will always be able to point to "something accomplished, something done."

C. J. A. ERICSON.—He was born in Sweden, on the 8th of March, 1840, and emigrated to Iowa in 1859. He settled in Boone County and soon became a prominent citizen, having been successively elected Road Supervisor, Township Clerk, School Director, Treasurer, Alderman and Treasurer of the City of Boone. He was Postmaster of Mineral Ridge under Presidents Buchanan, Lincoln and Grant, from 1859 to 1872. In the fall of 1871 he was nominated by the Republicans for member of the House of the Fourteenth General Assembly and elected. He has been a merchant and a banker—cashier of the City Bank of Boone since 1874. He is useful and influential in the city of his residence and always alive to the promotion of its interests.

STEWART GOODRELL.—He was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, August 9, 1814. The family removed to Guernsey County, Ohio, two years later. He was married on May 25, 1837, to Jane P. Israel. He continued his residence in Ohio until 1844, when he removed to Iowa and settled at Brighton, Washington County. He was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846, which met at Iowa City the first Monday in May to frame a Constitution and organize a State Government. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives from Washington County in 1846, and re-elected in 1848. In 1855 he removed to Des Moines, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a member of the Commission to locate the Capital of the State, under the act of 1854. In 1856 he was married to Lucinda Scott at Des Moines. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives from Polk County in 1859, serving with distinction in the great anti-war session of 1860, and in the extra session of 1861. It devolved upon him to call the House to order at its organization on the 9th of January, 1860. During the two sessions of this Legislature Mr. Goodrell was one of the most prominent and useful members. Having served in the House on two occasions before, as well as in the Constitutional Convention of 1846, he came with the prestige of experience and usefulness, which he fully maintained. The interests of education and the development of our magnificent system of charitable institutions always found in Stewart Goodrell an earnest and untiring advocate during all the periods of his legislative service. In 1862 he was appointed Register of the United States Land Office at Des Moines, and in 1863 and 1864 served as United States Treasury Agent for the Northern District of Louisiana and the District of Natchez, Mississippi. He was appointed United States Pension Agent for Iowa in 1869, which office he held until his death, November 12, 1872.

JONATHAN C. HALL.—He was born in Batavia, New York, on the 27th of February, 1808. His early life was spent on his father's farm in helping to clear up the heavy forest out of which it was hewn. His education was acquired in the common schools and a few winters in Wyoming

Academy. He taught school three years, and then joined a corps of civil engineers, and helped to survey into sections Genesee and some of the adjoining Counties. In 1828 he read law at Albany, and afterwards continued his studies at Cleveland, Ohio, where he remained until 1830. He began the practice of law at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, the next year. In 1839 Mr. Hall took a trip to the "far west" and was so well pleased with Burlington, Iowa Territory, that he moved his family there the next season, but concluded to settle at Mt. Pleasant. He soon acquired a very extensive law practice, and in 1845 was elected a member of the first Constitutional Convention. At the close of the session of the Convention he moved to Burlington, which became henceforth his permanent home. He had by this time become one of the leading lawyers of the new Territory. In 1854, upon the resignation of Judge J. F. Kinney, he was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. His opinions appear in Green's Reports, Vol. 4. In 1855 Judge Hall was elected President of the Burlington & Missouri Railroad Company, and was largely instrumental in securing the early construction of that great line of railway. In 1856 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention that framed the present Constitution of Iowa, and was one of the ablest and most influential members. He was the author of the school system provided for in that Constitution, and was always one of the leading supporters of the most liberal public school laws. He was a member of the Legislature of 1860 and was most useful and influential in bringing about the codification of our State laws in the Code of 1860. He was a man of commanding presence, courteous and kindly in his intercourse with others, a profound lawyer, a just and able judge, and a man whom Iowa will always be proud to remember among her most eminent citizens.

AZRO B. F. HILDRETH.—He is a "Green Mountain Boy," born in Chelsea, Vermont, in 1816. He was early apprenticed to the printing and newspaper business, and was engaged as editor and printer more than thirty-five years. Since the death of Father Clarkson it is understood that he is the oldest journalist in Iowa. Having paid good attention to the laws of health, he is still hale and hearty, and in all probability has yet many years of life before him. In December, 1855, Mr. Hildreth visited northern Iowa, and being charmed with the country, decided to make his home in the Hawkeye State. He removed there with his family, from Massachusetts, in the spring of 1856, and located at Charles City, Floyd County. There he at once established himself in the printing and newspaper business, and continued therein some fifteen years, when he sold out to Col. E. B. Dyke, who, with his brother, continues the publication of his paper, the *Intelligencer*, at the present time. In 1858 Mr. Hildreth was elected a member of the old State Board of Education, representing ten or twelve Counties which comprised the Tenth Judicial District. While a member of that Board he took an active part in framing the school laws of the State, and many portions of our present educational laws are the product of his facile pen. He was author of the law forbidding the exclusion of the Bible from our public schools; also one providing for the introduction of Webster's Dictionary in the schools of the State. But above all, he was the means of opening the doors of the State University, at Iowa City, to the education of young women upon equal terms in all respects with the young men. This measure met with much opposition, both from the people and the press, it

then being the opinion that co-education was impracticable. In 1863 Mr. Hildreth was elected to the General Assembly. In that body he was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Schools and State University, and was also a member of the Committee on Banks and Banking, and of the Committee on Printing. Any one familiar with the work of legislation can readily understand that these were very important committees, and the amount of labor imposed upon them necessarily large. He was very successful in carrying through the Legislature whatever measure he was interested in. Among the more important, and one that proved of lasting benefit to his part of the State, was a memorial to Congress, asking for a grant of land to aid in the construction of a railroad passing from McGregor westward through his own town of Charles City. Congress passed the grant, the railroad was built and is in successful operation at the present time. In the spring of 1861, at the breaking out of the Rebellion, Governor Kirkwood appointed Mr. Hildreth as Draft Commissioner for Floyd County. He transacted this difficult and delicate business with fidelity and to the satisfaction of all concerned. In 1862 Mr. Hildreth became one of the incorporators of the First Congregational Church at Charles City, and was for several years Chairman of its Board of Trustees. For many years he has been a member of the School Board of his city, and much of the time as President. He was one of the founders of the Free Public Library of that place, a very successful and popular institution, and is still one of its Directors. In 1859 Mr. Hildreth was the instigator and prime mover in the work of organizing the Floyd County Agricultural Society, as well as the Farmers' Club at Charles City; and was also for several years President of the Riverside Cemetery Association of Charles City. This cemetery is one of the most lovely cities of the dead in all Iowa. During the year 1891 Messrs. Redhead, Norton, Lathrop & Co., of Des Moines, published a book of nearly six hundred pages, entitled, "The Life and Times of Azro B. F. Hildreth," a very entertaining and instructive work, dedicated "to the wide-awake, enterprising and go-ahead boys and girls of the American Union."

JAMES HILTON.—He was born in the State of New York July 9, 1816. He settled at Hilton, Monroe County, Iowa, in 1841. He was appointed by Judge Charles Mason Clerk of the District Court of Kish-ke-Kosh (afterward Monroe) County, Iowa Territory, in 1845. He was also elected to the same office in Monroe County. In 1857 he was elected County Judge. In 1869 he was elected to the Board of Supervisors, of which body he became Chairman. In 1871 he was elected Representative in the Fourteenth General Assembly. His calling is that of a farmer.

L. HOLLINGSWORTH.—A native of the State of Ohio; he was born March 6, 1831. He settled in Keokuk County, Iowa, in 1844. He was elected a Representative in the Ninth General Assembly—1862—serving also in the extra session of the same year. He was elected County Auditor in 1870, and re-elected in 1872, holding the office four years. In 1876 he was chosen County Treasurer, which office he held one term. Mr. Hollingsworth has been a Republican since the organization of the party. He removed to the city of Des Moines, where he now resides, some years ago, engaging in business as a broker and dealer in real estate.

JOHN D. HUNTER.—He was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, August 12 1834. His earlier years were spent like those of most boys whose parents are in moderate circumstances. From the age of 8 to 14 he attended the public schools about half the months in the year, and "finished up" his education with a year at the Ashland (O.) Academy. About this time he immigrated with his father's family to the wild and uncultivated regions of Northwestern Ohio, locating in Bryan, Williams County, on the western boundary of the Maumee Valley, or the famous "Black Swamp Country." Here he entered his father's printing office, and devoted himself to "learning the trade," and to the acquirement of such practical knowledge of the newspaper business as he was capable of. At the age of 19 he was married to Miss Sarah A. Gates, of West Unity, Ohio. On the anniversary of his twentieth birthday the initial number of his first newspaper venture—the *Hoosier Banner*—published at Angola, Steuben County, Indiana, made its appearance. In the fall of 1858 he removed to Iowa, locating in Eldora, Hardin County. In the summer of 1858 he purchased a half interest in the *Hardin County Sentinel*, and in company with James Speers published the paper about eighteen months, at the end of which time he purchased the interest of his partner and continued the publication of the paper until January, 1863, when he sold the *Sentinel* to Hon. M. C. Woodruff. In the spring of 1861 Mr. Hunter was appointed Postmaster at Eldora by President Lincoln, which position he resigned at the end of the first year. In the fall of 1862 he was elected Treasurer and Recorder of Hardin County, with a salary of \$800.00 a year, which office he resigned in August of the following year, to accept a position in the military service of the Government. At the close of the war he returned to Hardin County, and in the fall of 1866 removed to Webster City and purchased *The Freeman*, and with the exception of one year has owned and controlled the paper in whole or in part ever since. In the fall of 1867 he was elected a member of the Iowa House of Representatives, and was re-elected in 1869. In the summer of 1872 he was appointed a member of the Board of Trustees of the Iowa Reform School by Governor Carpenter, and resigned in 1873, upon receiving the appointment of Postmaster of Webster City, which position he held until removed by President Cleveland in August, 1885.

HENRY W. LATHROP.—This gentleman was born in the State of Massachusetts, October 28, 1819, but raised in New York. He came to Iowa in 1847. Mr. Lathrop has been a man of affairs, employed most usefully during all the years of his life in Iowa. He was the only newspaper correspondent writing from the Sixth General Assembly, and the Constitutional Convention of 1857. He was a member of the City Council of Iowa City in 1852, and mayor of that city in 1853. In the latter year he was chosen a Regent of the State University. In 1855 he employed the first professor in that institution. He was Treasurer of the University from 1855 to 1862. He was the first Superintendent of Schools of Johnson County. In 1876 he was elected President of the State Horticultural Society, holding it two years. Becoming one of its Directors in 1876, he held the position until 1892. During all these years Mr. Lathrop has also given much of his time to journalism. He is now engaged in writing a biography of Governor Kirkwood. At the last meeting of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association he was elected an honorary member.

DR. ENOS LOWE.—He was born in North Carolina May 5, 1804. When 10 years of age he came with his parents to the then new Territory of Indiana. They settled near Bloomington, where in later years Enos began the study of medicine. He graduated from the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati. He settled in the practice of his profession at Rockville, and was elected from there a Representative in the Indiana Legislature. In 1837 he moved to the new Territory of Iowa and settled at the "Flint Hills," afterwards the city of Burlington. In 1844 he was elected a member of the first Constitutional Convention, which held its sessions at Iowa City in October and November of that year. This Constitution was rejected by the people and members were elected for another Convention in 1846. Dr. Lowe was again chosen a member from Des Moines County. The Convention convened at Iowa City, May 4, 1846, and Dr. Lowe was elected President. The Constitution framed by this Convention was adopted at an election held August 3, 1846, and it was under this Constitution that Iowa was admitted as a State of the Federal Union on the 28th day of December of the same year. In 1847 Dr. Lowe was appointed Receiver of the United States Land Office at Iowa City, which he held for four years. In 1853 he was appointed Receiver of the new United States Land Office established at Kaneshville, now Council Bluffs. He was one of a company that laid out the city of Omaha. In 1853 he procured the first ferry boat on the upper Missouri river, to run between Omaha and Kaneshville. He was Surgeon of the First Nebraska Regiment and was promoted to Brigade and Division Surgeon. During the remainder of his life Dr. Lowe was an active leader in all enterprises for the development of the material interests of Omaha and Nebraska. He died February 12, 1880.

JAMES W. LOGAN.—He was born in Washington, Pennsylvania, in March, 1826. He graduated at Jefferson College, Connorsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1849. After studying law in the office of Hon. Jeremiah S. Black, at Somerset, Pennsylvania, he removed to Mapleton, Ohio, where he engaged in journalism, editing and publishing *The News* of that city two years. In the year 1855 he settled in Muscatine, Iowa, becoming one of the proprietors of *The Journal*. His firm began the publication of *The Daily Journal* in 1856. During the same year he was elected Chief Clerk of the Iowa House of Representatives, serving in the last session held in the old Capitol at Iowa City. Mr. Logan removed to Nebraska in 1857, where he remained until 1860. Returning to Iowa he established the *Fort Dodge Republican*. He was elected to the Tenth General Assembly as a member of the House for the District composed of the Counties of Webster, Pocahontas, Palo Alto, O'Brien and Calhoun. Removing to Waterloo in 1864 he became part owner and editor of *The Courier*, in which position he continued for several years. In 1874 he was elected Enrolling Clerk of the Senate. He was elected Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the Sixteenth General Assembly (1876). In 1878 he was appointed Collector of United States Internal Revenue, serving until 1885. He still resides at Waterloo.

SAMUEL McNUTT—Mr. McNutt was born in Ireland, November 21, 1825. He came to this State in 1854, settling in the County of Muscatine, where he still resides. His profession is that of a farmer, from which, how-

ever, he retired some years ago. He was a member of the House in the Ninth, Eleventh and Twelfth General Assemblies, and State Senator in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth, making a legislative service of ten years. He was a recruiting officer for some time at the commencement of the Civil war. In recent years he was for a short time United States Consul at some South American city. Mr. McNutt took a prominent position in every Legislature in which he served. He is an able speaker and a ready debater. While serving in the Legislature, questions relating to the revenue, taxation, temperance, and railroad control, were constantly before that body and in the adjustment of which Mr. McNutt always took a prominent part. He has also written a great deal for the public press, and whether writing or speaking has always been bold and outspoken in advocating what he believed to be right. He is now living in retirement from active life, and is understood to be engaged in writing his recollections of men and events since he came to Iowa.

THOMAS C. MCCALL.—This Pioneer Law-Maker was born in the State of Ohio, September 4, 1827. He came west in 1846 and settled at Nevada, Story county, where he still resides. He was a member of the Ninth, Nineteenth and Twentieth General Assemblies, and was elected to the Senate in the Autumn of 1891. His District is the Thirty-first, consisting of Boone and Story Counties. He has been a Republican from the start. In the Autumn of 1862, after serving in the extra session of the Legislature, he went at once into the military service as Quartermaster of the Thirty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was at the capture of Fort De Russey, and in the battles of Pleasant Hill and Old Oaks, in Louisiana, and at Tupelo, Mississippi. He also participated in many skirmishes and other minor affairs. In 1864 he was promoted to Captain and Assistant Quartermaster. Captain McCall studied law and was admitted to the bar, but has followed the calling of a farmer and dealer in live stock. He is a man of great energy, possessing wide and diversified information and much practical ability. In all of the Legislatures of which he has been a member he has been accorded a high position, generally serving on the Committees of Ways and Means, Railroads and Judiciary. He is a good speaker and an excellent debater. During recent years he has been a sufferer from protracted ill health, but has nevertheless rendered the State distinguished services as a Senator. Captain McCall died in 1892.

WILLIAM J. MOIR.—He was born in Scotland, October 19, 1824. Coming to this country, in 1856, he settled at Eldora, Hardin county, where he still resides. He was a member of the Ninth and Tenth General Assemblies. His profession is that of an Attorney at Law. While he is a gentleman of recognized ability, and widely known over the State, his best public record is doubtless that which has grown out of his connection with the State Reform School for Boys, which is located at Eldora. Of this institution he was one of the earliest advocates and founders, having taken the leading part in organizing and bringing it to its present degree of excellence and efficiency. In this theater of usefulness his services have been of great value. Living near the institution, and having long been a resident Trustee, he has been an almost daily visitor for many years, watching every detail of its management with the eye of a careful business man, and the spirit of a

Christian philanthropist. He exercises a great degree of influence over the juvenile delinquents, and always in the direction of inspiring them with ambition to improve their time in school, and to lead pure and honest lives. The earnest, untiring efforts of such a man are valuable beyond estimate.

HARDIN NOWLIN.—He was born on the 11th of October, 1804, in St. Clair, Illinois. He worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-one when he went to Missouri and engaged in mining. In 1829 he settled at Galena, Illinois and engaged in lead mining. He was a good surveyor, and in July, 1833, with a few other adventurous young men, crossed the Mississippi river where the city of Dubuque now stands, and, with his young wife, began pioneer life in a rude log cabin. This great wild region was then a part of Michigan Territory, but the Indian treaty, made the year before, opened a portion of it along the west banks of the Mississippi to settlement. Young Nowlin soon found work in the line of his profession in government contracts to survey a portion of the newly acquired Territory, and among other work he sub-divided eight townships along the Cedar River, now in the limits of Black Hawk County. He attained to considerable political prominence in the Territorial and early Statehood days of Iowa. In 1836 the Territory of Wisconsin was established, including therein Iowa, which was divided into two counties—Dubuque and Des Moines—and he was elected to represent Dubuque County in the lower House of the first Wisconsin Territorial Legislature which met at Belmont, Wisconsin, in October, 1836. The two subsequent sessions of the Legislature were held at Burlington. In 1838 Congress set off Iowa as a separate Territory, and he was elected Representative from Dubuque in the first Legislature which met at Burlington in November, 1838. He was also a member of the Sixth Territorial Legislature in 1843 and 1844. He at one time escaped an election to the State Senate by his opponent receiving an equal number of votes with himself, and at the special election subsequently held to decide the tie, a third candidate entered the contest and was elected. Of his colleagues in the Wisconsin Territorial Legislature, but one is now known to be living. On the 15th of May, 1825, he married Martha Eckert, of Kentucky. Of their four children two are living, James L., the son, is a merchant in Peosta, and the daughter, Mary C., is the wife of H. B. Allen, President of the First National Bank of Waterloo. Mr. Nowlin and his aged wife, who came with him in their youth to the far west, spent the last fifteen years of their lives in Waterloo, at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Allen. His wife died in 1889, and he followed her October 8, 1892, honored and respected by all who knew him.

CHESTER S. PERCIVAL—Who was elected an honorary member of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association at its last meeting, was born in Oneida County, New York, March 12, 1822. He began writing poetry while a student in Hamilton College, and a volume of his early poems was published by subscription while he was in college. For many years he contributed poetry to the *New York Tribune* and *Louisville Journal*. Mr. Percival followed teaching for many years. In 1860 he entered the ministry of the Episcopal Church, and in 1861 was appointed Chaplain of the Twelfth New York Infantry. In 1864 he moved to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and became Rector of Grace Church. He published a volume of poetry in 1890. He was

an occasional contributor to the leading magazines. He received the honorary degree of Ph. D. from some literary institution a few years ago. He died in Marshalltown during the year 1892, at which time he held the appointment of Chaplain of the Iowa Soldiers' Home. During their lives he enjoyed the personal acquaintance and friendship of Horace Greeley, Geo. D. Prentice and other eminent Americans.

J. B. PERRY.—He was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, April 1, 1832. Coming to Iowa in 1850, he settled at Albia, Monroe County, where he still lives. He was chosen at the August election, in 1854, to the office of Prosecuting Attorney of Monroe County, for the term of two years; having been admitted to the bar the previous April. At the August election, in 1854, he was elected a member of the State Board of Education, for the Second District, for the regular term of four years. The first session was held in the Senate Chamber of the old Capitol building, Des Moines, beginning on the first Monday in December, in 1858. Mr. Perry remained a member of this body until it was abolished a few years later. At the election in 1891, he was chosen State Senator for the Fifteenth District, serving his first session in the winter following. He has always acted with the Democratic party.

A. A. RAMSAY.—He was born in Fleming County, Kentucky, August 21, 1821, and settled in Monroe County, Iowa, in 1853. He has held the office of Mayor of Albia, and has been twice elected to the Iowa House of Representatives serving with distinction in the sessions of 1868 and 1886. His profession is that of a physician.

SAMUEL A. RICE.—He was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, January 27, 1828. His father died when he was a boy and the family had a hard struggle for years to obtain the necessities of life. At an early age he engaged in boating on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and became a skillful pilot. By his own exertions he provided the means to enter Union College, and graduated in 1848. He acquired a good legal education at the law school at Ballston Springs, and in 1851 went to the then "far west" and opened a law office at Fairfield, Iowa. A little more than a year later he removed to Oskaloosa and established himself in his profession, where he spent the remainder of his life. While still a young man he was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Mahaska County. In 1856 he was elected Attorney-General of the State, a position he filled for four years with great ability. In 1862, when the Southern Rebellion had assumed alarming proportions, he felt it his duty to enter the military service, and was commissioned Colonel of the Thirty-third Regiment of Iowa Infantry. He set himself to work at once to become thoroughly informed in military affairs, and by a study of the best authorities in the line of that profession rapidly acquired distinction as one of the most accomplished officers in the Volunteer service. He distinguished himself at the battle of Helena, July 4, 1863, and was promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General. In April, 1864, he commanded a brigade in the battle of Jenkins' Ferry, Arkansas, where he received a wound that proved fatal. He was conveyed to his home at Oskaloosa after the battle and made a brave struggle for life; but after prolonged suffering, death came and ended the career of one of the ablest and best of Iowa's devoted sons who gave their lives for their country's salvation. He was a young man, but thirty-six years of age when he perished, and was universally

esteemed for his noble qualities of head and heart. Had he survived there is little doubt that he would have attained the highest honors his State could have bestowed upon him.

S. B. ROSENKRANS.—He was born in Hammondsport, Steuben County, New York, April 27, 1824. He was descended from Revolutionary stock, his great grandfather being a Colonel in the Revolutionary War. His ancestors were of Low Dutch descent. He has in his possession the old Dutch family Bible printed in Amsterdam, Holland, over two hundred years ago. General Rosencrans is also from the same stock. Mr. R. emigrated to and settled in Webster City, Hamilton County, Iowa, in the spring of 1856. He was elected in the same year to the office of Clerk of the District Court of Webster County, then comprising Webster, Hamilton and a part of Humboldt. He was elected to the Legislature in the fall of 1859, and was in the extra session, 1861. Was appointed Drafting Commissioner by Governor Kirkwood in 1861. Has held the office of Mayor of Webster City, also Councilman. Is a member of the Congregational church. Independent in politics.

N. W. ROWELL.—He was born in the State of Ohio, June 19, 1836. He came to this State in 1847, and has since resided at Afton, Union County. Mr. Rowell has served the people of that County in many positions of honor and trust, having been a member of the School Board for fifteen consecutive years; County Judge; County Superintendent of Schools, three terms; Mayor of Afton, and one term a Councilman. He also represented Union and Adams counties in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. Judge Rowell is a lawyer by profession, and has always been a member of the Republican party.

ZIMRI STREETER or "Old Black Hawk," as he was called by his colleagues in the Iowa House of Representatives—was one of the best known members of the Legislature during the sessions of 1858 and 1860. He was born in Granville, Washington County, New York, February 7, 1801. He came to Iowa in 1852, settling on a piece of Government land which he entered that year near Cedar Falls, Black Hawk County, where he built a log house in which he lived for nearly thirty years. He was one of the typical pioneer farmers of early days in Iowa—industrious, economical, hospitable, jovial, and a man of sterling integrity. He was well informed, an independent thinker, always acting upon his own convictions of right. He was highly esteemed by his neighbors, and had hosts of warm friends throughout Black Hawk County. As a member of the Legislature he was not the originator of many bills or laws, as he held the opinion that the highest duty of a member was to closely examine every proposition presented to the Legislature, and unless it was clearly right and necessary it had better be defeated! It is probable that no member of the Iowa Legislature ever defeated so many visionary, vicious or useless bills as "Old Black Hawk." With great genialty, he possessed sound judgment, an uncommon allowance of common sense, and saw through the various "schemes" that come before legislative bodies at a glance. A two minutes' speech, illustrated with a touch of his irresistible humor and sarcasm, generally "did the business" for a measure he had set his heart upon defeating. Few people outside of his colleagues have ever known how valuable were the services

rendered the State during the four years' service in the House of Representatives by Zimri Streeter. In 1862 he was elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the House, and in 1864 was one of the Commissioners appointed by Governor Kirkwood to take the vote of the Iowa soldiers in the field. Mr. Streeter died on the 7th of January, 1880, esteemed and respected by all who knew him.

E. M. STEDMAN.—He was born in the State of Ohio March 2, 1832. Coming to Iowa in 1858, he settled first at Cedar Rapids, but a year afterward located at Vinton, Benton County. He first appeared in public life as a Representative in the State Legislature in 1872, and was re-elected in 1874. He took a prominent and recognized position in both the Fourteenth and Fifteenth General Assemblies. In 1876 he was appointed an Agent of the United States Treasury Department, which position he occupies at this time (1892). His location at present is Des Moines. Mr. Stedman has always been a Republican. He was a leading and most efficient member of the Lower House of Representatives, and a man who has made a most favorable impression upon the general public.

D. P. STUBBS.—He was born in Preble County, Ohio, July 7, 1829. Coming to Iowa in 1857, he settled at Fairfield, Jefferson County, where he still resides. He was chosen Mayor of Fairfield in 1859 and 1860 by the vote of all parties. In 1863 he was elected State Senator by the Republican party, holding the office for the regular term of four years. Mr. Stubbs has been engaged in the practice of law for the past thirty years.

LEWIS TODHUNTER.—This distinguished citizen was born in Fayette County, Ohio, April 6, 1817. He held among other positions in his native County, the office of Township Clerk. Settling in Indianola, Warren County, Iowa, in 1852, he has always taken an active part in political and public life. He had studied law and been admitted to practice before coming to our State. In quite early days he was elected and re-elected County Attorney and Recorder and Treasurer of Warren County. He was one of the well-remembered participants in the Iowa Constitutional Convention of 1857, of which the record shows that he was one of the working members. While troops were being raised in Iowa he was appointed Quartermaster of our Forth-eighth Regiment of Infantry, and later promoted to the rank of Captain and Assistant Quartermaster. This promotion resulted in his being sent to the Army of the Potomac, with which he remained until the surrender of Lee. He served under General Ingalls, and was with Grant at Appomatox. Mr. Todhunter has always enjoyed a large acquaintance in our State, and no man possesses a larger measure of public confidence. He is still in the enjoyment of vigorous health, notwithstanding the burthen of his 75 years. In the early years of his majority he was a Whig; since the anti-Nebraska times he has been a Republican.

JOHN S. TOWNSEND.—He was born in the State of Kentucky, August 24, 1824. Coming to Iowa, he settled at Albia, Monroe County, in 1852, where he practiced law. He was elected County Attorney in 1852. Elected Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, he served on the bench from 1853 to 1859. In changing the numbers of the Districts he held the same office in the Second District from 1859 to 1862. He was a Representative in the State Legislature of 1852-53 from Monroe County. At the time these lines were

written Judge Townsend was winding up his business as an attorney with a view of retiring to private life.

J. WILSON WILLIAMS.—This veteran Law-Maker was a native of the State of Vermont, and was born March 25, 1816. He came to Iowa in 1838, settling at Huron, Des Moines County, where he still resides. He was educated as a surveyor, and served twelve years as County Surveyor of Hancock County, Illinois. He has also held appointments as United States Deputy Surveyor under the Dubuque and St. Louis Land Offices. He has served ten years as Representative in the Iowa Legislature, and four years as State Senator. He was first elected to the Legislature in 1852; his Senatorial service was in the sessions of 1874 and 1876. Latterly, Mr. Williams has pursued the calling of a farmer. He is a man of rare culture and intelligence, noted during his Legislative career for his great geniality and kindness toward all with whom he associated. He was a most industrious working member, rarely occupying the floor, but always commanding the attention of his associates when he had occasion to speak. The high confidence reposed in him by the people of Des Moines County is fully evinced by his repeated elections to the State Legislature.

S. P. YEOMANS.—This widely known Pioneer Law-Maker first saw light at German Flats, Herkimer County, New York, January 23, 1822. He came to Iowa when he was 17 years old, studying medicine some years afterward at Mount Pleasant, and graduating at Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1854. He afterwards graduated at the Hahnemann College, in the same city. Since coming to the Territory of Iowa he has resided in Mount Pleasant, Brighton, Agency City, Clinton and Charles City. He removed to the latter place some twelve years ago. He represented Clinton, Lucas, Wayne and Decatur Counties in the Fifth General Assembly, being at that time a Democrat. Dr. Yeomans was appointed Register of the United States Land Office at Sioux City in 1858, in which capacity he served six years. At the present time he is a member of the Board of United States Pension Examiners, and a Trustee of the Iowa Agricultural College. During the Civil war he was Assistant Surgeon of the Seventh Iowa Infantry. Dr. Yeomans is a genial, pleasant gentleman, who takes an active interest in the affairs of the State, and in whatever is transpiring in the community of his residence, notwithstanding his 71 years.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JUDGE EDWARD JOHNSTONE.

It was expected that a sketch of the life of this illustrious citizen would be prepared for these pages, but as circumstances arose to prevent this, it has been determined to make a selection from articles already written of such paragraphs as seemed most pertinent and fitting. The following is a brief statement of facts, prepared ten years ago by Judge Johnstone himself, as data for a local historical work:

Edward Johnstone was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, on the 4th of July, 1815. He studied law in Greensborough in that County, and in the summer of 1837 immigrated to the West. His first residence was Mineral Point, and in the fall of that year (1837) went to Burlington and acted as one of the Clerks of the Legislature of Wisconsin Territory, which then held its sessions at that place. During the session of 1837-8 the Legislature appointed three Commissioners to collect testimony with regard to the title of the Half-Breed lands in Lee County, and report the same to the District Court, of which number Mr. Johnstone was one. This duty called him to Montrose in the spring of 1838, where he remained till January, 1839. He then removed to Ft. Madison, and having been employed by the St. Louis claimants of Half-Breed lands, instituted proceedings in conjunction with Hugh T. Reid for the division of said lands under the general partition law of the State, which resulted in the "Decree Title," by which the lands are now held. In the summer of 1838 Mr. Johnstone was elected to the Legislature, and for two consecutive terms—regular and special—was Speaker of the House. In 1840 he was elected a member of the Council from Lee County. He was United States District Attorney for the Judicial District of Iowa, under the administration of President Polk. In 1851 he was elected Judge of the County Court of Lee County, and served in that capacity for four years. After the expiration of his term of office, he engaged in the banking business in the firm of McMurphy, Johnstone & Bacon, which was subsequently changed to Johnstone & Bacon. In 1848 he was elected a delegate to the Constitutional Convention. In September, 1868, he removed to Keokuk and took charge as cashier of the Keokuk Savings Bank, in which position he still remains. He was married in April, 1849, in St. Louis County, Missouri, to Elizabeth Vander Burgh Richards. They have four children living, three sons and one daughter.

We copy the following most appropriate and able editorial article from the Keokuk *Gate City* immediately after the death of Judge Johnstone—preferring that those shall speak of him who knew him best. It is from the pen of his life-long friend, Hon. Sam. M. Clark:

The kingliest man in Iowa is dead. "The last of all the Romans." Judge Edward Johnstone died about 11 o'clock Sunday night. Had he lived until July 4 he would have been seventy-six. That is a ripe old age, and most men have drifted out of the active current of life by that time, but Judge Johnstone was up to the end a potential factor in business and affairs, and he will be sorely missed in city and State. To us,

personally, the sense of loss is deep and keen, for we have spent many an hour together in these recent years, and have seen his rich and many-sided mind from every standpoint. He was so free from vanity, so little self-assertive that it was only to the few that he showed the extent of his reading, the largeness of his scholarship, the breadth and accuracy of his learning, the ripeness of his wisdom, the masterfulness of his powers. Like Lincoln, Jefferson, Disraeli, Palmerston, Blaine—like nearly all successful statesmen, he was adroit, and in every contact learned more of the other man than the other man was learning of him. All such men can only be known when they are in their hours and moods that involve no reservations. Then only you see the richness, ripeness, nobility of the man; the real source and pivot of his integrity and his power. You cannot measure an ocean with a foot-rule. The supremest forms of power among men are state-craft and church-craft. It is intellect using individuals and the present for large future and general ends. And you have to be in the future to see the full extent of what the statesman or churchman was doing with individuals and incidents. Judge Johnstone was the sort of man to be either statesman or churchman: he was Hildebrand if he chose, or Disraeli if he chose. He didn't care to exert the power, but he disclosed its methods in all he did, and when he cared to do so he showed to the few that knew him well the irradiations of the power. He could have been anything in the American State or Church that he chose, if he had cared to put forth all his capacity to achieve it. With him, as with all great men in Church or State, shrewdness is an endowment of power, the quality of leadership, and it is based on a strong foundation of sincerity and integrity. Judge Johnstone had all the elementary and primary qualities upon which all great manhood rests: he was a good man; he was builded on morality. Honest, pure, upright, gentle, kindly, truth-loving, devout, without superstition, we knew him well, and he was one of the best men as well as one of the greatest we have ever known.

When a man like Edward Johnstone or Charles Sumner dies, probably your keenest regret from an impersonal standpoint is that such a store of knowledge should go out of the world, out of all power to serve mankind. Apart from his wide general knowledge, Judge Johnstone knew from the inside everything that either party had done in Iowa for the last half century. He knew all the men of the State, all public affairs, what was done and why. Everybody went to him for suggestion and counsel. He knew people and events. He told us some time ago that he meant to write for us a few articles about the early lawyers and public men of Iowa, but we presume he never did it, and now all that knowledge that he could have put into writing as no other could, is gone.

No one man in Iowa had more to do with the making and shaping of the commonwealth than he. He was one of the earliest legislators. He had a hand in the making of both Statute and Constitution. In the first quarter century of the Territory and State there was not an act of public importance done that he was not consulted and his judgment used in fashioning it. He helped make the Statutes that yet form the chief part of the Code. He helped make the Constitution that is yet the organic law of the State. He helped build the Mt. Pleasant Asylum, the first of our great charities, and start Iowa upon its system of State eleemosynary institutions that are the pride of all the people and that have put the commonwealth in the front rank of modern humanitarian civilization.

To Keokuk he was a most loyal citizen, a most constant and serviceable friend. Since he came here in 1868 there has not been a measure of public benefit and progress that his shaping hand and brain were not called to the help of by his fellow citizens and freely given. His acquaintance with public men was large, his tact in conducting measures unrivaled. The people of Keokuk may well honor him and regret him for every part of the prosperous city his body will be borne through to-day on its way to the grave will be in its way a prosperity he has in some sort helped to build.

Into the privacy of the sacred sorrow of the home we have no right to cast a revealing look. But we, and all who knew Judge Johnstone well, know that in all his public strength and service, it was yet in his home as man, husband, father, host and friend, that he was at his best in all his large and manly qualities. And after all, that is the best and surest test of manhood.

We take the following sentences from an article in *The Constitution-Democrat*:

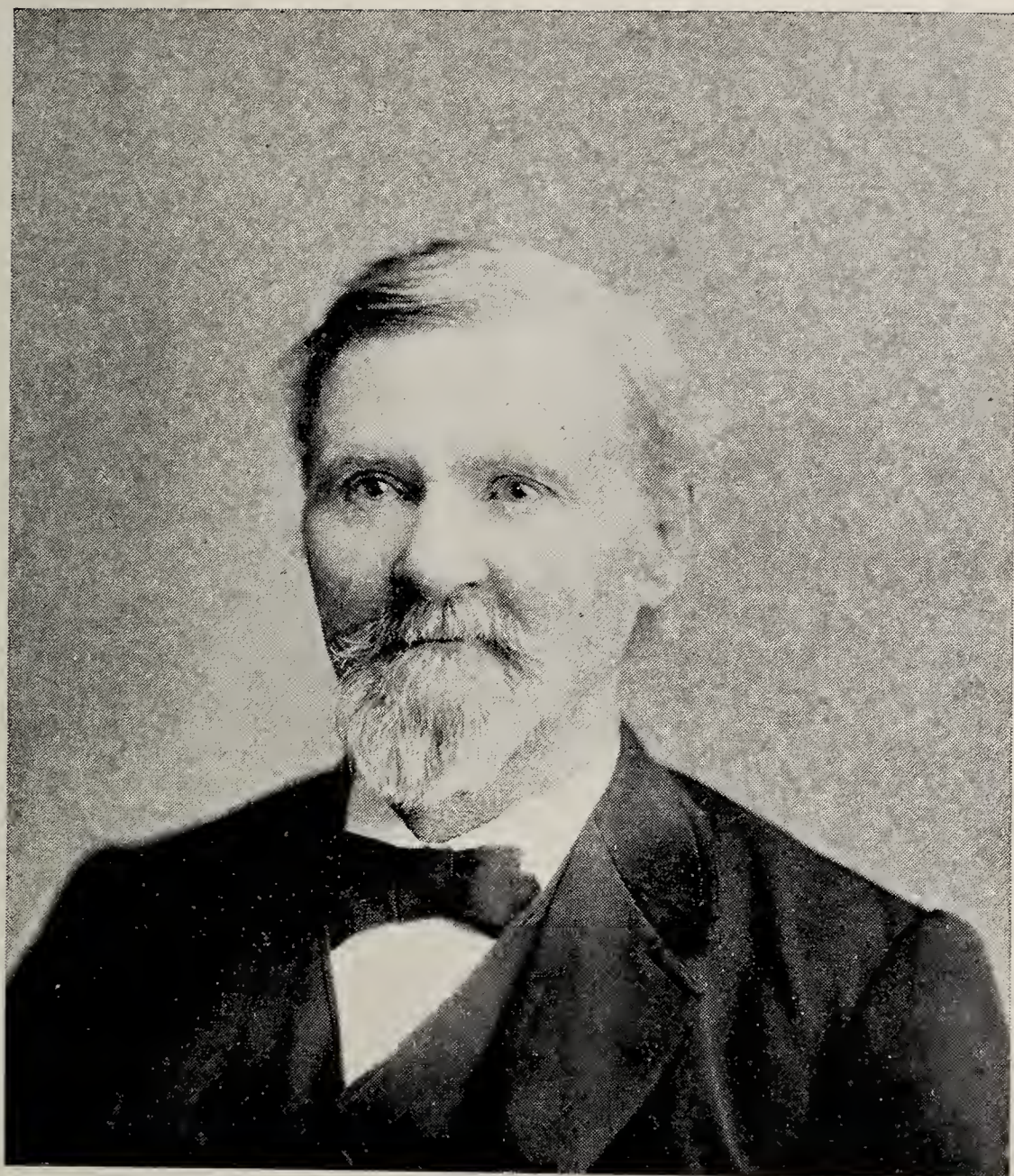
The tenderest regret that is felt by all is that a delightful presence has been exchanged for a tearful memory. These are the highest offerings of the human heart. Judge Johnstone was a man not only of great sense and of excellent mental endowments, but he possessed that power which after all is the strongest that a man can wield, the power of a sympathetic, strong, kind heart. Whatever may be said of brilliancy in life and living, and whatever light may brighten up our mental and intellectual pathway through life, the human heart is, after all is said, the light of our best living. Judge Johnstone was, in all the attributes of his character, the product of the rugged experience by which life in a growing community on the frontier, with its privations, and yet its opportunities of developing and broadening our life's vision, character is molded and matured. He was the victim of no prejudices; he had inherited none. He took an enlarged view of life's duties and responsibilities. He was fortunate in life, and who is there of those who know him who did not envy the apparent health of mind and body and the cheerfulness of disposition which enveloped him. A man of strong convictions, he was ready on occasion to express them and conscientiously stand by them. Charitable in his judgment of others, fair to those who opposed him, considerate of the opinion of others however widely they might differ from those entertained by himself, with a warm and sympathizing heart toward all who were in need and sorrow, with a loyalty to friends that was proverbial. He was a Democrat, and was always ready to maintain and defend the principles of his party; and yet he was always considerate of the feelings and opinions of those who differed with him. Some of his closest friends and most intimate associates were of the opposite political faith to his own. * * * * The sum of such a life may find expression in the word "a good citizen, faithful public servant, true friend, indulgent husband and kind father." He was at all times and everywhere, an honest, honorable, kindly man. He flattered nobody, he persecuted nobody, he maligned nobody, but was always frank and open. He gave everybody his due. He was plain in his manners plain in his attire, plain in his language. He was a man of the people. A true and good man has gone from us forever, and Keokuk has lost a valued friend. With sad hearts he will be laid in the garden of the dead to-morrow. Who is there who can take Edward Johnstone's place in this community?

One very interesting and notable fact is not stated in either of these extracts, though it might be inferred from the words of Mr. Clark. In addition to his superb mental power, and his excellent qualities of head and heart, Judge Johnstone possessed the finest physique—he was the handsomest man in our State. He was six feet six inches high, magnificently proportioned, weighing 250 pounds. His hair was worn rather long, and in his later years was snowy white. His face was always smoothly shaven, giving him almost a boyish look. He dressed in plain, simple black, and always with faultless taste. Towering some inches above the heads of the tallest of his associates, he presented a commanding figure, such as one may see but once in a lifetime. Truly, with such a presence, and with such great qualities and great acquirements, was he "The Kingliest man in Iowa."

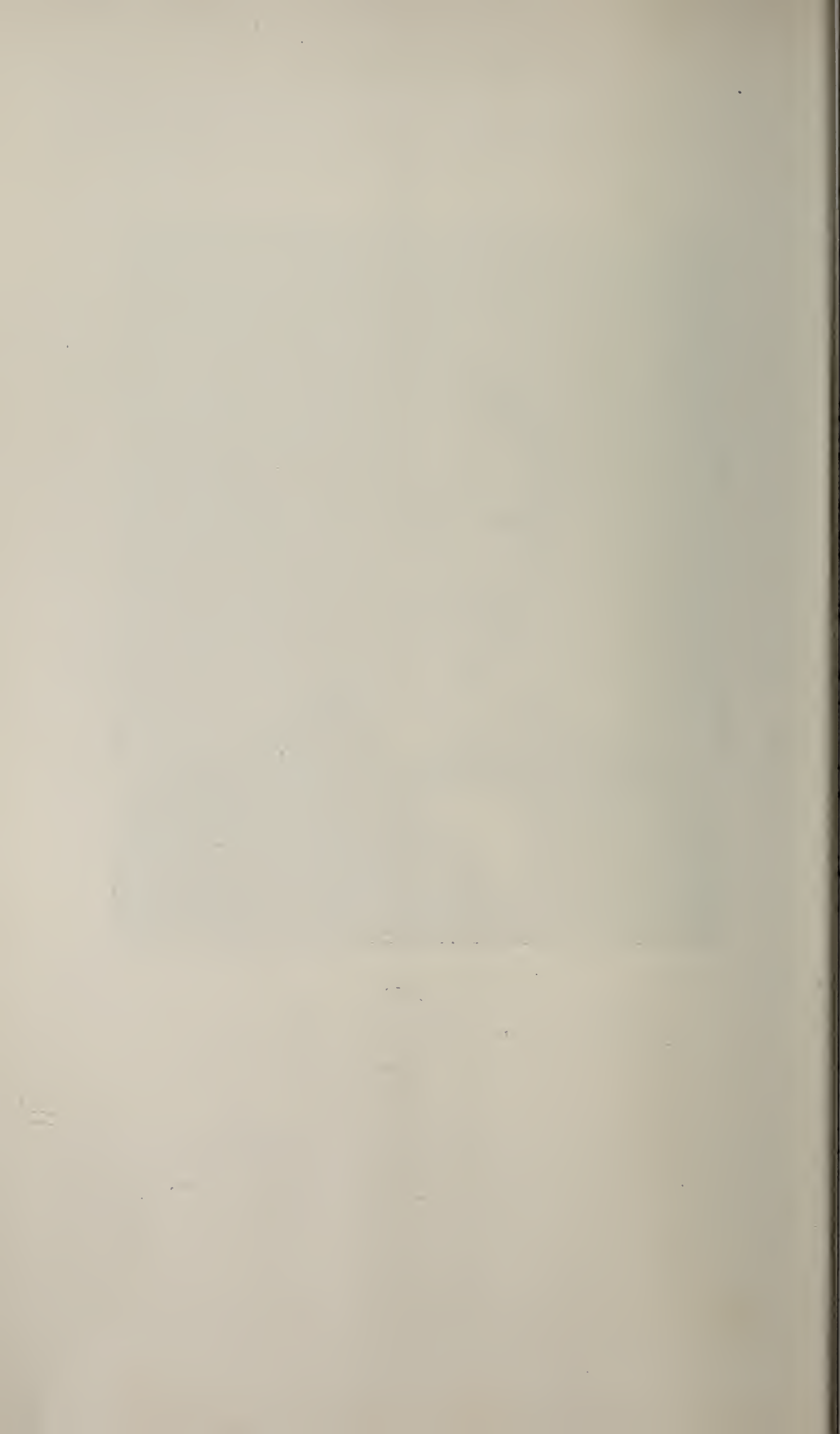
ALEXANDER R. FULTON.

This distinguished editor, citizen and Pioneer Law-Maker, died at his home in the city of Des Moines on the 29th day of September, 1891. At the time of his death he was Secretary of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association, which place became vacant until it was filled temporarily by the Executive Committee. The following sketch of his most useful life appeared in the *Daily Capital* of Des Moines the next afternoon after the death of Judge Fulton. It was from the pen of his long-time friend, Mr. W. H. Fleming:

ALEXANDER R. FULTON, editor of the Western Newspaper Union, of Des Moines, was a native of Chillicothe, Ohio, born October 11, 1825, and was a son of James and



Yours Respectfully
A. R. Fulton



Rebecca (Green) Fulton. His father was born in Huntington, Pennsylvania, in 1799, and was of Scotch descent, having emigrated from Glasgow to America in the eighteenth century. The mother of Judge Fulton was a daughter of Nathaniel Green, a Virginian, whose ancestors left their home in the north of Ireland to become residents of the United States. Both parents lived to a ripe old age, having passed their eightieth birthdays. His father departed this life in 1883, and his wife was called to her final home in 1884. Judge Fulton was educated in Mount Pleasant Academy, at Kingston, Ross County, Ohio. He made a special study of higher mathematics and surveying, adopting the profession of civil engineer. In 1851 Mr. Fulton removed to Fairfield, in this State, whither his parents had removed a year before. He soon afterward became editor and proprietor of the *Fairfield Ledger*, which he sold to Mr. W. W. Junkin in 1854. He was Judge of the County of Jefferson for four years during the fifties, at which time that officer was not only Judge of Probate, but also performed all the duties now devolved upon the Board of Supervisors. In 1854 he was chosen Assistant Clerk of the House of Representatives, the first House in which the Democrats were in a minority. It was by this House that the first prohibitory law was passed. Mr. Charles C. Nourse, now of Des Moines, then of Van Buren County, was the Chief Clerk. Mr. Fulton occupied the same position at the extra session of 1856, in which the first railroad land grants were disposed of. He was also Engrossing Clerk of the same body in the Sixth General Assembly, the last to meet at Iowa City. Mr. James W. Logan, now of Waterloo, was Chief Clerk at the time, and William P. Hepburn, now Solicitor of the Treasury, was Assistant. For twelve years Judge Fulton was Surveyor of Jefferson County. In 1863 he represented that County in the House of Representatives. He shortly afterwards removed to this city, which has since been his home. Becoming connected with *The State Register*, he made a tour of the State, visiting almost every County, and furnished that paper a very readable description, historical and otherwise, of each. In 1870, when the State Board of Immigration was organized, he became its Secretary, a position for which his experience in newspaper work qualified him very thoroughly, and it is not too much praise to say that much of the admirable work done by the Board in attracting the attention of home-seekers in other States and foreign lands to Iowa, is to be credited to Judge Fulton. About the same time, Judge Fulton became Secretary of the Board of Capitol Commissioners, which he held until 1873. He then became connected with the State Printing Company, which founded the business, now so extensive, of the Western Newspaper Union, and has from the first had charge of the editorial work of that establishment, occupying also, during later years at least, the position of Cashier. Judge Fulton was a tireless worker. The engrossing cares of his regular employment did not prevent him from devoting several hours a day to literary labor. In this character of work he was among the foremost Iowans. Perhaps no man, unless it be Charles Negus, his former townsman, has done so much towards perpetuating the early history of Iowa as has Judge Fulton. His work on the "Red Men of Iowa" is authority on the subject of which it treats. As a poet Judge Fulton has given the world several productions of rare merit. In short, he occupied a unique place among the literati of Iowa, one that will not be filled. Judge Fulton, an anti-slavery Whig in early life, became one of the founders of the Republican party in this State, adhering to it to the end. In 1888, upon the organization of the famous Tippecanoe Club, he was made its Secretary, and was only recently re-elected. Judge Fulton was also a pronounced advocate of Tetotalism, being active in the Sons of Temperance, when that order was powerful in Iowa; and for some years he has been connected with the order of Good Templars, being a member of Fidelity Lodge in this city. While a resident of Fairfield, Judge Fulton married Mrs. Augustus S. Wheeler, who by her former husband had two children—Lizzie, who died in 1885, the wife of Dr. T. J. Douglass, of Ottumwa, and George O. Wheeler, now of this city.

The following lines were also written for the *Capital* by Mr. Charles Aldrich:

In the death of Judge Fulton, of this city, whose funeral is taking place as we are going to press, Iowa has met with a loss which is wholly irreparable. Not only was he one of the most genial, kindly, intelligent, lovable characters we have ever known, but his services to the literature and history of the State were valuable beyond estimate. He was in the midst of his labors—the saving up of materials for history—and it is extremely doubtful whether this can ever be so well continued by any other man.

His work in the Newspaper Union had given him opportunities to survey the whole field of State journalism, and whatever pertained to the history of Iowa he was very carefully gathering together and keeping for future use. He was thus saving a thousand things which will hardly be appreciated until years hence, when they will be largely sought for and used, thanks to this patient, plodding, earnest, faithful worker. His most valuable single work was his "Red Men of Iowa," in which he recorded all that is known of the Indian tribes who used to occupy our Territory. This was published many years ago, but has long been out of print. Copies are rarely met with now, and they are worth two or three times their original cost. There is a demand for the book. It was fortunately stereotyped, and may be reprinted at any time.

Judge Fulton was an occasional contributor to Mrs. Martha J. Lamb's *Magazine of American History*, where his articles were always most welcome. He had several in preparation at the time of his death, and it is a great loss to the State that they cannot be completed. One, especially, would have possessed more than ordinary interest. It was a history of early Mormonism in Iowa. But Judge Fulton's memory was full of reminiscences which would have found their way into print had his most useful life been spared.

[As these pages are going to the printer we learn that the publishers—Mills & Co., of Des Moines, Iowa, who own the stereotype plates—have it in contemplation soon to issue a new edition of Judge Fulton's "Red Men of Iowa." It is not only a very meritorious work, but its re-publication will be a deserved tribute to the industrious and pains-taking author, who was really and truly one of the best men in our State.]

GENERAL N. B. BAKER

BY B. F. GUE.

NATHANIEL B. BAKER was born in Hillsborough, N. H., September 29, 1818. He was educated at Harvard University, graduating in 1839. He studied law with Franklin Pierce, who afterward became President of the United States. He was admitted to the bar in 1842, and at once entered upon the practice of his profession. He was always a clear, forcible and able writer, and for three years was one of the editors and proprietors of the *New Hampshire Patriot*. In 1845 he was appointed Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, and in 1846, Clerk of the Superior Court of Merrimac county. In 1851, he was elected to the Legislature, serving two terms, and was chosen Speaker of the House. In 1852, when the Democrats were inclined to give New Hampshire the candidate for President, Franklin Pierce and N. B. Baker were the two persons prominently named for the place. They were very warm friends and would not consent to a contest to determine which should be the candidate; but Baker being the younger, generously stood aside and used his influence to bestow the great honor upon his friend, who received the nomination, and as all know, was elected by an overwhelming majority. Baker was chosen one of the presidential electors and had the satisfaction of helping to give the vote of his State to his old friend for President.

In 1854, he was nominated by the Democrats for Governor and elected. He served with distinction through the term and soon after its close

decided to go west, and settled in the then new town of Clinton, Iowa, in 1856.

He was elected to the Legislature in the fall of 1859, and became one of the most prominent members of the House in 1860. When the secession of the Southern States began in 1861, Governor Kirkwood called a special session of the Legislature in May, to provide ways and means to equip and send into the field Iowa's quota of volunteer soldiers, to suppress the great rebellion. Our State had no well-organized militia, or drilled soldiers of any kind, and it was a source of great anxiety on the part of the State administration and the loyal people to know whether the Democratic party of Iowa would give a cordial support to the necessary war measures recommended by the Governor to place Iowa on a war footing and thus enable our State to sustain President Lincoln in his sworn duty to preserve the Union and suppress the Rebellion. Some of the leading Democrats of the North were bitter in their denunciations of the policy of the new administration in its efforts to put into the field a powerful and well equipped army that would make short work of the insurrection and restore the jurisdiction of the general government in the seceded States. N. B. Baker never hesitated for a moment, but hastened to assure Governor Kirkwood that he should use his utmost influence with his Democratic friends to give the State and National administrations a cordial and united support until the Union was fully restored. When the extraordinary session of the General Assembly convened in Des Moines, on the 15th of May, 1861, Civil War had begun, the people of the country were intensely excited, and the States of the Union were arming and equipping military companies and regiments to engage in one of the most terrific struggles for supremacy ever witnessed in the world's history. The Republican party was a unit in supporting all war measures necessary to overcome the armed assaults upon the Government, while a portion of the Democratic party sympathized with their Southern brethren in the struggle then convulsing the country.

Gov. N. B. Baker became at once the leader of the "War Democrats" in Iowa and used his great influence to bring his party to the support of the most energetic war measures. In this extra session called for the purpose of putting Iowa on a war footing, Gov. Baker was ably seconded by the eloquent young Democratic member from Decatur county, Hon. R. D. Kellogg. As soon as the House was organized Baker offered the following resolution:

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this House there should be enacted at this session a law providing for the payment of all volunteers who enter the service of the general Government or of the State, from the date of their enlistment to the time of their mustering into service, and also providing for their pay from the date of their discharge to the time of their arrival at their respective homes."

Governor Baker was placed at the head of the Committee on Military Affairs and shaped most of the war measures enacted by this historic extra session. Under his leadership the necessary laws were enacted to provide for putting Iowa on a war footing. Provision was made for the support of the families of volunteers, State bonds were authorized to be issued for \$800,000, to provide a war and defense fund, and an auditing board provided to supervise the expenditures of the money for war purposes. Upon the adjournment of the extra session Governor Kirkwood appointed Governor

Baker Adjutant-General of the State, in which position he proved to be one of the ablest and most energetic organizing officers in the Union. His office during the entire war was a model of system and efficiency. No State was more prompt in putting its quota into the field, no regiments were better officered, or composed of better material, as was demonstrated on every battle field in which Iowa soldiers were engaged. His records give a correct and concise history of the services of every Iowa soldier and officer who enlisted in the Union Army.

General Baker had a warm affection for every Iowa soldier who did his duty, which seemed to grow warmer with the lapse of years during all the remainder of his life; and no soldier, or soldier's widow in want or distress ever appealed to General Baker in vain. He would at all times deprive himself of any luxury, and often of necessary articles, or the last dollar in his pocket, to aid a soldier in distress. I once saw him take off his overcoat and give it to a poorly clad old soldier in a bleak winter storm.

When the grasshopper scourge swept over the newly settled counties of northwestern Iowa, destroying the crops of the homestead people, leaving them in a destitute condition, General Baker constituted himself a most efficient executive committee and superintended the gathering and distribution of supplies that relieved the pressing wants of thousands of suffering people.

When he died, September 11, 1876, a feeling of profound sorrow pervaded the entire State. No man in Iowa ever had more warm personal friends, and none ever rendered his State greater service. A memorial association was organized by his friends at the head of which was the grand old "War Governor," Samuel J. Kirkwood, which with funds freely contributed by thousands of grateful Iowa soldiers, purchased a lot in Greenwood Cemetery, Des Moines, and erected a fine monument to his memory. The Secretary of War, Hon. George W. McCrary, an illustrious Iowa statesman, secured four brass cannon, which were appropriated by act of Congress, to be stationed permanently on the four sides of General N. B. Baker's last resting-place.

JUDGE HENRY CLAY CALDWELL.

HENRY CLAY CALDWELL was born in Marshall county, West Virginia, on the fourth day of September, 1832. He was the son of Van and Susan Caldwell. On his father's side he is of Scotch origin, the family having originated at the Cold Wells, in Scotland, and on his mother's side he is descended from Irish stock. His maternal grandfather was an Irishman by birth, became a Methodist minister, volunteered in the war of 1812 and died in the service. His parents removed from West Virginia to Iowa, in 1836, where he was educated in the private and common schools of that day. He began the study of law in the office of Wright & Knapp, at Keosauqua, Iowa, at the age of seventeen, was admitted to practice in his twentieth year, and shortly thereafter became a junior member of that firm. He at once engaged in active practice, and was soon recognized as one of the most successful lawyers of his age in the State. In 1856, he was elected Prosecuting

Attorney for his district, and in 1859 was elected to the Legislature, and during the two sessions was Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the House. In 1861, he was commissioned Major in the Third Iowa Cavalry, and was promoted successively to be Lieutenant-Colonel and Colonel of that regiment. General Bussey, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Judge Caldwell and General Noble, Secretary of the Interior, were successively and in the order named, colonels of that regiment. He was an efficient officer. General Davidson, in his official report on the occasion of the capture of Little Rock, says, "Lieutenant-Colonel Caldwell, whose untiring devotion and energy never fags, during night or day, deserves for his gallantry and varied accomplishments, as a cavalry officer, promotion to the rank of a general officer." In June, 1864, while serving with his regiment, President Lincoln appointed him District Judge of the United States for the District of Arkansas. The United States Courts were opened in Arkansas, in 1865, and immediately the docket was crowded with cases involving all the difficult and intricate questions growing out of the war. His court was the first one in the country required to pass upon these questions, and his rulings, with a single exception, were affirmed by the Supreme Court. From that time to the present Judge Caldwell has continued to hold the Federal Court in that District, and has occasionally held court in Districts in other States. Judge Caldwell is what the lawyers call a clear-headed judge, and possesses a remarkable readiness for grasping and thoroughly comprehending all the salient points of the most intricate case. His ability to dispatch business is extraordinary, and while cutting off wrangling and idle verbiage of practitioners, he reaches substantial results without unnecessary delay, and without prejudicing the rights of parties. He possesses eminently the judicial temperament, and carries into the transaction of legal business a large share of practical common sense. He is firm and courteous in his rulings, kind and forbearing to the young and timid members of the bar, and rigid with those who are fond of trifling. Judge Caldwell is a self-made man, and possesses a vigorous grasp of intellect and a strong sense of justice, and though not a classical scholar, is a master of terse English. The force and clearness of his opinions have attracted the attention of the bench and bar of the country, and some of them have become leading authority on the subjects to which they relate. His administration of justice has been characterized by ability, honesty and impartiality, and it is probable that there is not a judge in the United States who enjoys in a higher degree the confidence and esteem of the bar of his court, which numbers among its members lawyers as eminent as any in the country. On the fourth day of March, 1890, President Harrison appointed Judge Caldwell United States Circuit Judge, for the Eighth Circuit, the largest circuit in the United States, comprising as it does ten States. As a member of the Arkansas State Bar Association, and otherwise, Judge Caldwell has participated actively in the amendment and improvement of the laws of that State. His address on the "Insecurity of Titles to Real Property," led to important legislation on that subject, and his address on the "Anaconda Mortgage" system prevailing in that State, attracted wide attention and caused amendment of the law, contributing largely to foster the spirit that led to the establishment of co-operative stores by the "Wheel" organizations of that State. He was active in procuring the enactment of the law which secures to married women the

absolute ownership and enjoyment of their separate property, free from the control of their husbands or the claims of their creditors. He aided in the establishment of the present system of laws in Arkansas regarding the liquor traffic, which is esteemed by many as the best code on that subject in the country. It was largely due to his influence that the ancient system of common-law pleading which prevailed in Arkansas prior to his accession to the bench was abolished and the modern system of code-pleading adopted. Judge Caldwell is a poor man and utterly indifferent to the acquisition of property or money beyond a sum sufficient to defray the current expenses of his family, who live plainly.

HON. W. H. F. GURLEY.

BY B. F. GUE.

W. H. F. GURLEY was born in Washington, D. C., in 1830. When he was a young lad he was chosen clerk of a committee on which Abraham Lincoln, then a member of the House of Representatives, was serving, and he formed a very pleasant acquaintance with the tall, awkward, kindly, but obscure Congressman from the then wild West. Mr. Lincoln always remembered the bright, black-eyed boy-clerk of his committee.

When Gurley was but sixteen years of age he went with Dr. Owen, of the U. S. Geological Survey, on one of his exploring expeditions to the far West, and got his first look at the great wild prairies of Iowa as they were in 1846-7. He was fascinated with the beauty of this almost unexplored region, its rivers and creeks fringed with woods, the vast stretches of rolling prairie, the abundance of wild game, the picturesque bluffs of the great Mississippi, and he then determined to some day return and make this new territory his home. He studied law in Washington, was admitted to the bar and entered upon the practice of his profession. But the vision of that vast prairie region in the far Northwest, where he had spent such a delightful summer exploring its undeveloped resources in boyhood, was continually coming up in memory, and in 1854 he left Washington and made his way to Davenport which had just celebrated the entrance of its first railroad from the East. He at once opened a law office and soon had a good practice. In the summer of 1859 he was nominated by the Republicans for Representative in the Legislature, and was elected by a large majority. He had won a fine reputation as an able young lawyer, and when the House was organized was made Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, by the Speaker, Judge Edwards. The State finances were in a most unsatisfactory condition; the delinquent taxes amounted to a very large sum, and the laws providing for their collection seemed to be ineffectual. The delinquency was steadily increasing, and the Governor in his message strongly urged effective legislative action that would remedy the growing evil. Mr. Gurley at once entered upon the formidable work of revising the entire revenue system, and so amending the laws providing for the collection of taxes, that it would be to the interest of property-owners to pay their taxes promptly. He spent a large part of the session in perfecting his revenue bill, and although it met

with fierce opposition in both Houses, he secured its passage and it became the law. That system, so carefully and wisely devised by the young Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, in its operation, more than fulfilled the most sanguine expectations of its author, and with slight amendments, is the law of the State to this day. In this one most important act Mr. Gurley demonstrated his great legislative ability and did his State a service that has immortalized his name as a wise Legislator. No State in the Union has a more effective revenue system, nor one that has enabled her to keep her finances in a more satisfactory condition.

Soon after the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln as the first Republican President of the United States, he demonstrated his high regard for his former committee clerk by appointing him U. S. District Attorney for Iowa.

Mr. Gurley's health was frail when he was a member of the Legislature, giving his friends much anxiety. When he entered upon the arduous duties of his new position it taxed his strength to the utmost, and his health suffered farther. He never spared himself in the conscientious discharge of his official obligations, and after a few years found his health so seriously impaired that he was obliged to resign the office so congenial to his taste, and for which he was so well equipped. A few months after his resignation he was appointed U. S. Consul at Quebec, but failing health again forced him to resign that position after a short term of service, and he went home among those who loved him to close his eyes in death, at the early age of thirty-five. He left a young wife who was most devoted to her noble husband and four boys who never ceased to mourn their irreparable loss.

The *State Register* said of Gurley: "No kinder husband and father—no truer friend, no more devoted patriot has been known to us in all our acquaintance. His unselfishness and purity of character were marked qualities wherever he was known."

I knew him well from the time he came to Iowa, and was for many years his associate and intimate friend. He was the soul of honor in all the relations of life. His aspirations were of the most exalted character. He was by nature and education the highest type of a man; true in his friendships, loyal to his convictions of duty, and ambitious to render his State and country the best service in his power.

The early death of one who had so much to live for, and whose future seemed so full of promise, was widely lamented, for he had made hosts of friends for one so young. He was cut down upon the very threshold of what promised to be a useful and brilliant career. Had his life been spared there is little doubt that he would have attained high honors in the State he had served so faithfully, and loved so well.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS CHAPMAN.

1808—1892.

First Delegate in Congress from Iowa Territory—1838-1840.

BY T. S. PARVIN.

There has recently died on the Pacific coast (October 9, 1892), at the advanced age of four score and four years, a distinguished citizen and pioneer of both the Territories of Oregon and Iowa—one who helped to make both Iowa and Oregon. Few men, indeed, of those early days and Territorial years, have done more or exerted a wider or deeper influence on the minds of the people of the States of Iowa and Oregon than has the Hon. William Williams Chapman, first Delegate in Congress from the Territory of Iowa (1838). And now that he has passed away, it is eminently fitting and proper that one of the few surviving of his early associates in Iowa should present to the public a brief memoir of his active service through this lengthened period, embracing as it does the entire history of the two States with whose interests he was most identified, as well as of the Republic at large. Born on the tide-waters, and almost in sight of the Atlantic, in Clarksburg, Virginia, August 11, 1808; residing in the State of his birth for a period of twenty-six years; emigrating to Iowa in 1835, when it was yet a part of Michigan; remaining here for a period of thirteen years, till 1847, when he removed to Oregon, ere it had become a Territory; remained through its Territorial days to see it become a State in the union of States, and lived there a period of forty-five years. These were eventful years, not only to himself and his State, but to the world at large, for the wonderful progress made in all departments of life. In Mr. Chapman's early youth, while he was yet under 14 years of age, his father died, and thenceforward, like many another youth of this, and later periods, he was left to "paddle his own canoe." This he accomplished with the aid of a kind and loving mother and a faithful brother, through whose influence he secured a common school education of that period. Verging into manhood he obtained employment in the Clerk's office with Chancellor Henry St. George Tucker, an eminent jurist of that period. In the office he wrote by day, and under the direction of his preceptor, read law by night. In the latter he was materially aided by Mrs. Schon, the wife of Major S., a Clerk of the Court, who, seeing his disposition to study, ordered the servants to keep his room well lighted and warmed, that he might not be hindered in his laudable ambition to master the law, a science in which his instructor had already won renown. We have heard him refer with commendable gratitude to the service which this good woman rendered him when first setting out in the world. In due time he was licensed to practice his profession in his native County of Marion, where he had for his associates some of the most distinguished men of the bar in that portion of the State. In the spring of 1834 he married Margaret F., daughter of Col. Arthur Inghram, who became at a later period a citizen of Des Moines County, Iowa District, while it was yet a part of Wisconsin Territory, and served the people in the Legislature, the last of Wisconsin

and the first of Iowa Territories, from the County of his adoption. In the fall of the year of his marriage, 1834, young Chapman removed to Illinois and settled at Monmouth, a few miles across the river from Burlington, and in the spring of the following year, 1835, removed to Burlington and located in what was then known as "The Black Hawk Purchase." John S. Horner, Secretary and Acting Governor of the Territory of Michigan, appointed Mr. Chapman Prosecuting Attorney for the County of Des Moines, one of the two Counties of the Iowa District. The following year, 1836, Wisconsin was separated from Michigan upon the admission of the latter into the Union, and so created a separate Territory, when President Jackson commissioned Mr. Chapman as United States Attorney for the Territory of Wisconsin.

Judge Irvin, well known to the few early settlers now living, was Judge for the District of Iowa. The public lands at that early period were not surveyed, and of course had not been offered in the market. The settlers upon the public domain were called "squatters," and their claims were staked off with plowed boundaries around them, and were liable to be "jumped" by newcomers, which caused the action of forcible entry and detainer to become a common occupation of the Courts. The settlers in each township organized a Court of their own to adjudicate these claims, and their "claim laws," as they were termed, were recognized by the Courts and by the law of the Territory. The majesty of the law at that time was upheld by the popular opinion of the people, so that everywhere the "People's Court" administered justice with an unsparing hand, and the law of that early period was as well, if not better enforced than in later or even present times.

Mr. Chapman became and was ever regarded as the friend of the settler, and in later years when he sought their suffrages for public office they made their friendship known and magnified in his election to Congress as the first delegate from Iowa Territory. In 1836 he removed to Dubuque and became a partner of Stephen Hempstead, who afterwards, 1850, became Governor of Iowa. His brief residence in Dubuque enabled him to make many acquaintances, which served him a good purpose two years later when becoming a candidate for their suffrages. A year later (1837) he returned to Burlington and located upon a farm near the town, practicing his profession, however, in the city, where he formed a partnership with James W. Grimes, who afterwards became Governor and then U. S. Senator. During this period of Wisconsin's history, Mr. Chapman still served as U. S. Attorney. Gen. Geo. W. Jones, of Sinsinawa Mound, Wis., now an honored citizen of Dubuque, was the delegate in Congress from Wisconsin, and by an act of Congress, June 12, 1838, secured the separation of Iowa and its organization into a distinct territory from and after July 4, of that year, it being the 62d anniversary of the Independence of the United States. Gen. Robt. Lucas, of Ohio, was appointed first Governor of Iowa, and under his proclamation the election for Delegate to Congress was held September 10, 1838, when Wm. Williams Chapman was duly elected. His competitors for the office were David Rorer, of Burlington, long the Nestor of the Iowa bar; Benjamin F. Wallace, of Mt Pleasant, who afterwards became Secretary of the Territorial Council, in which he served several years; and Peter Hill Engle, of Dubuque, a ripe scholar, a good lawyer and Speaker of the House of Representatives

of Wisconsin in 1837, who was largely supported by the citizens of northern Iowa on local as well as general grounds. These gentlemen were all good speakers and stumped the Territory. Mr. Engle afterwards removed to St. Louis, where he became a distinguished Judge and died in the midst of his usefulness. All of those gentlemen have passed away, Mr. Chapman being the last.

We were young, then, but have a distinct recollection of the discussion of the candidates, which had reference solely to matters relating to the Territory, its wants and needs. No topic of a National character was introduced or political views expressed, though three of the gentlemen were Democrats, Mr. Wallace alone being a Whig. None of them then dreamed what a great State the infant Territory would become within the brief period of their respective lives.

We have said that the election occurred on the 10th of September. At that election we cast our first vote in the little town of Charleston, now Sabula, Jackson County, being on our way to Dubuque for the purpose of being admitted to the bar by Judge T. S. Wilson, the only one of the three Judges then within the Territorial limits. The returns were late in coming in, as the precinct of St. Peters around Ft. Snelling, opposite where is now located the city of St. Paul, delayed in sending in their returns; so that when Mr. Chapman received his certificate of election, which was written by ourself, signed, of course, by the Governor, he had to make a hasty departure for Washington, and we have heard from his own lips that he traveled by wagon from Burlington to St. Louis, and by wagons and stages all the way from St. Louis to Frederick, Maryland, where he first met the railroad. (Members of Congress do not travel that way now.)

The Congressional career of Mr. Chapman, while brief, was not an uneventful one in its influences upon the growth and interest of the young Territory of which he was the first Representative. As it has become, we are sorry to say, too common a rule among writers, who, like the Egyptian King, "knew not Joseph," to ascribe all wise legislation of the past to public men of a much later period, we will specify some of the more prominent subjects successfully carried through the two sessions of which Mr. Chapman was a member, and largely through his instrumentality. It should also be borne in mind that in those days Iowa had no able coadjutors in the Senate, through whose powerful aid the measures of their associate representatives are pushed through Congress and enacted into laws.

Among the measures secured by Mr. Chapman was an appropriation for the opening of a military road from Dubuque through Iowa City to the southern boundary of the Territory. For years, as we well know, having often traveled over it, this was the great highway through the interior of Iowa, and its influence and usefulness at that early period to the early settlers can hardly be realized in these days of railroads. Another favorite project of his, which he also accomplished, was the construction of "a road from Burlington west" to the Indian Territory, and also one "east from Burlington" across the Mississippi Bottom, a wide and low stretch of land, impassable during most of the season, so as to bring Burlington into connection with Western Illinois, at a place called De Hagney, a place not now designated upon the maps of the State. To accomplish this result Mr. Chapman had to resort to a little strategy. He did not state in the bill that

De Hagney was in Illinois, because President Van Buren, a disciple of the Jacksonian school, was opposed to Congress appropriating public moneys for internal improvements within the States.

The location of the place the President did not discover until after he had signed the bill (if then) and so Burlington, of which place the people of the east had but little knowledge, was brought into communication with the outside world. An anecdote, of which we were perfectly cognizant, may not be inappropriate here. A letter addressed from the State Department, at Washington, to His Excellency Robert Lucas, Burlington, Iowa, was first sent to Burlington, New Jersey, returned to Washington; and then sent to Burlington, Vermont; going back a second time, it was a second time forwarded to Burlington, New Jersey, and again returned to Washington, when the postmaster endorsed upon it the significant language, "For God's sake, let this letter go to some other Burlington," when, after many weeks of travel, it came to its proper destination and was long an object of curiosity shown to visitors at the Governor's office.

In the Organic Act, creating the Territory of Iowa, the northern boundary of the State of Missouri was made the southern boundary of the Territory of Iowa; and "thereby hangs a tale," which played an important part in what at one time promised to become a tragedy in our history, but which happily ended only in a comedy, as wise counsel gave us safe deliverance from the former. "The Boundary War" of that period constitutes an interesting and important chapter in our history, and the chief hero in that bloodless contest has gone to his grave "unwept, unhonored and unsung," while to *his* efforts, and success in the end, Iowa owes a debt of gratitude it were better to pay late than never. Through the efforts of Governor Lucas Iowa not only maintained, but succeeded in later years in gaining legal possession of the disputed tract of territory between Iowa and Missouri. "By the prompt and noble action of Governor Lucas," says Mr. Chapman, than whom none knew better the history of that period, "a collision between the two jurisdictions was avoided, and the question in dispute submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States, which, at a later period, confirmed the position of Iowa, and by decree of the Supreme Court signed by Chief Justice Taney, Iowa became the peaceful possessor of the territory in dispute. That decree of the Supreme Court is on file in the State Historical Society at Iowa City.

It was an agreed case, and as Iowa was a Territory, and so a ward of the Nation, it became necessary for Congressional action to be had to give the Supreme Court jurisdiction in the case. When the matter came up in Congress it was referred to the Committee on Territories, of which the Hon. Garrett Davis, of Kentucky (a distinguished and prominent citizen of that Commonwealth, who afterward became a senator), was chairman.

Missouri was ably represented by a number of eminent Congressmen, and in the Senate by two of the ablest Senators of that period, Hon. Messrs. Benton and Linn, while Iowa had to depend alone upon her Representative in the House, an untried man, to urge her rights and defend her cause.

Mr. Chapman thoroughly investigated the subject, and having Gov. Lucas (who had passed through a similar contest in the boundary war of Michigan) to aid him, was enabled to present such a view to the committee, that the Committee on Territories unanimously reported in favor of the position assumed by Iowa, that "the Des Moines Rapids meant the rapids in the

Mississippi river and not those in the river of Des Moines," upon which distinction the merits of the case hung.

From Mr. Chapman, upon his return, we learned that propositions were made to him by the Missouri delegation, that if he would accede to the views of Missouri he might rely upon the early admission of Iowa (a measure fondly wished by the citizens) as a State, with any boundary, other than upon the south, her people might desire.

Viewing this matter in connection with the contest between the people and Congress in reference to the boundary established by the Constitutional Convention of 1844, of which also Mr. Chapman was a member, this proposition was very significant in its future results. To these blandishing allurements, however, Mr. Chapman gave no heed and helped to fight the bill through the House, eventually securing to Iowa the boundary she desired.

The most important legislation of that early period touching the rights, interests and welfare of the people of Iowa and other newer and western regions, was known as the "Preemption Bill." Mr. Chapman introduced the first bill relating to Iowa upon this subject. When first presented it was sneered at and snubbed and the settlers called in derision by eastern Congressmen "Squatters;" yet in less than two years President Van Buren recommended in his annual Message, legislation in their behalf and the bill, through the efforts of Daniel Webster, called in those days "the Godlike Daniel," became the law of the land. Webster had at a previous session opposed the bill in a well ordered speech, but having later visited the west, where in Illinois he had a son residing, and acquainted himself with the character of the people and the need of such a law, gave the bill his earnest support, which secured its passage through the Senate, when it became a law.

Great as was the service Mr. Chapman rendered in these respects, he ever looked back with the greatest pleasure to another measure which he secured, which was the giving to Iowa of five hundred acres of land for school purposes. Upon this broad platform the "School system of Iowa," originating in Territorial days, was created, and not, as has been proclaimed in later times, founded by others and non-residents of the State. Honor to whom honor is due; and let us *now* give to our first Governor, Lucas, and first Delegate in Congress, Chapman, the credit to which they are justly entitled as the founders of the school system of Iowa.

Mr. Chapman entered the Twenty-fifth Congress at the second term, and as the legal term of a full-fledged Congressman was two years, he had the first term of the succeeding Congress assigned to him, whereby he served two years, leaving only one to his successor, who, however, was re-elected, and thus between the two put in the period of five years in three several Congresses.

Mr. Chapman removed in 1843 to "The Agency," now Agency City, then an Indian village (near the present city of Ottumwa) and the residence of Keokuk, the head Chief of the Sac and Fox Indians. In 1844 he was elected one of the delegates from Wapello County to the first Constitutional Convention held in Iowa City in October of that year. In this Convention he had a number of very able associates. From his old County of Des Moines there were James Clarke, the last Territorial Governor, and Sheperd Leffler, who became President of the Convention, and later, upon the admission of Iowa into the Union, first Representative in Congress, and Dr. Enos Lowe,

President of the second Convention of 1846. Then there were Lucas, first Governor, Hempstead, of Dubuque, and Lowe, of Muscatine, afterwards Governors of the State, Cutter, of Van Buren, first Secretary of State, Jonathan Hall, afterwards Judge of the Supreme Court, Judge Grant, of Davenport, and Messrs. Gehon, Bailey and Shelledy, the first, marshal of the Territory, the other two, later of the State. (Dr. Bailey alone survives.)

Mr. Chapman was named as Chairman of the "Committee on Boundaries," and none more competent or suited to the position could have been selected. He was thoroughly conversant with the controversy of the preceding years in regard to our southern boundary, and to him we are indebted for the present boundary, which was accepted by Congress as by the people in 1846.

The opposition to the Constitution in 1844 was urged solely because of *the boundary*, and not, as some "Latter Day Saints" in our political history would have us believe, "on political grounds." A majority of the members of the Convention forming the Constitution were Democrats, and a majority of the people voting upon it were Democrats, and the Constitution was thoroughly Democratic in its provisions. The opposition to the Constitution was organized by late Lieutenant Governor Enoch W. Eastman, who, with Sheperd Leffler and Captain Mills, who lost his life in the Mexican war, stumped the first judicial district, while I alone, surviving, stumped the second, and I well know that our opposition to the Constitution was based *solely* upon the "boundary question." The boundary first prescribed by the Convention embraced substantially its present limits extending to the Missouri, while, by act of Congress, the western boundary was a meridian line extending north and south from the Minnesota, then called the St. Peters river, to the northern boundary of Missouri, passing some thirty miles west of the Raccoon forks of the Des Moines river, now the city of Des Moines.

General Dodge, who was Delegate in Congress at the time and anxious for the admission of the Territory as a State, published and distributed among the people a circular in which he stated, what was then the current belief that all the territory cut off by the western boundary as prescribed by Congress was "a desert waste." He lived to see his great mistake, as has every other student of geography and traveler through this garden spot of the Mississippi Valley.

Mr. Chapman in the Convention advocated the right of Iowa to concurrent jurisdiction over the waters of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, in which he was overruled by the Convention and the boundary established as at present to "the middle of these rivers respectively," and out of this has grown a new boundary difficulty, the State of Illinois claiming that her western boundary extends to the "middle of the main *channel* of the Mississippi river." Such a claim, especially for the Missouri river, if urged by Nebraska, would lead to variations as regular as the seasons come and go.

Mr. Chapman is responsible for another measure adopted by that Convention, which subsequently became a law of the State (in our judgment, of pernicious tendency) providing for "the election of judges by the people." The measure, however, was popular then, and is now, notwithstanding two noted examples in the cases of Judges Day and Adams, in which the bench has been prostituted to the behests of party and the purest and best of our judges set aside because they honestly differed from a faction of the domi-

nant party, and led the court in their decisions to what they fully believed law, right and proper.

While in Congress Mr. Chapman had heard much said of Oregon, which as the then El Dorado of the west, was beginning to attract attention. These statements made an impression upon his mind which he did not forget, and he had probably read in Bryant's poems a passage which became historical:

* * * Take the wings
Of morning, pierce Barcan wilderness,
Or lose thyself in the continuous woods
Where rolls the Oregon, and hears no sound
Save his own dashings.

There was a small exodus of our people from the River Counties in 1843, who crossed the plains, to become in time the pioneer settlers in Oregon. This served to inflame Mr. Chapman's desire, when, his wife concurring in his views, he with others provided themselves with ox teams, and after seven weary months of slow journeyings, on the 13th of November, 1847, the party reached their destination.

What if thou withdraw,
In silence from the living, and no friend,
Take note of thy departure.

Their coming into Oregon was heralded and their labors as pioneers made to result in great good to the Territory and the Nation. Oregon was not then organized with a Territorial Government and did not become so until August 14, 1848. Salem, now the capital, with Oregon City, both on the Willamette, were the principal points of interest and resort. The next year Mr. Chapman made a personal inspection of the Territory bordering the Columbia and Willamette rivers, his purpose being to find a site, which in his judgment and that of his companions, would be suitable for the metropolis of the great extent of country north of the "Golden State." The points regarded by them as most desirable were that the proposed town site should have ready access to the ocean, and still be near to the great garden of the Northwest, the Willamette valley. This they found near the junction of the two rivers in a little village of half a dozen houses with two roads parallel to the river Willamette.

The town was a claim of sixty-four acres, held by two persons, from whom Mr. Chapman purchased a one-third interest, upon which they laid out the town of Portland, Oregon, the commercial metropolis of the great Northwest. Like many another founder of a great city, Mr. Chapman received but a poor reward for his foresight, labors and services. While he secured but little, the country made much in the growth of—

That same young city, round whose virgin zone
The rivers like two mighty arms were thrown,
Marked by the smoke of evening fires alone,

and, there, a third of a century later we saw as we steamed from the ocean to its long wharves, which—

Lay in the distance, lovely even then,
With its fair women and its stately men.

The site fully justified the wisdom and judgment of the pioneer, our former friend and fellow townsman. In the Territory of Oregon they had what was known as the "Donation Law," under which the joint proprietors divided their interests and Mr. Chapman made large donations to the public for court house, park, educational and other purposes. To boom their town the proprietors purchased a steamer to trade with San Francisco. This was the beginning of the great "Oregon" line of steamers, in which another Iowan, Captain Ainsworth, formerly of Keokuk, became conspicuous, and who still lives in Oakland, California. Mr. Chapman also purchased material and started a paper called the "Oregonian" (which is, we believe, still published) and sent a man to circulate it down the Valley. On these ventures the money of the company went faster than the growth of the city, but in the end the paper became a success, as also did the city, both of which served to enrich others if not themselves.

Oregon, like Iowa, had to get up a little war of its own, and in 1855 occurred the "Rogue Bill" war, in which Col. Chapman commanded the southern battallion and served to the close of the war, a period of seven months, when all became peace again, and harmony once more reigned among the people. In 1858 he was appointed Surveyor General for the Territory by President Buchanan, and held the office until removed by President Lincoln in 1861, from which we infer that Mr. Chapman was a Democrat in Oregon as he had been in Iowa. By this time he had seen Oregon, as before he had seen Iowa, fairly in the line of rapid growth and development, and in all her material progress he took an interest, and in many things acted a prominent part. During these years he was engaged more or less closely in the practice of the law, and with his practice and the fragment of his landed interest which he had retained he had secured a competence of this world's goods to make him comfortable in life and lived to see that—

The fullness of the time has come,
And over all the western home,
From sea to sea the flower of freedom blooms—

a broad contrast between the present and the past, between his old Virginia home and the lands he had helped to open to settlement, both in Iowa and Oregon, in the great Mississippi Valley and upon the grand Pacific Coast.

Of his early associates in Iowa less than half a dozen remain; of those holding executive (Presidential) appointments only one, the Hon. T. S. Wilson, of Dubuque, Territorial Judge; our own being by the Governor. Besides there are only three living elected by the people prior to 1840, and they were members of the House of Representatives of the first Territorial Legislature (1838), only one of whom, Dr. G. S. Bailey, resides in Iowa (Van Buren County); Hon. Hawkins Taylor (of Lee County), now of Washington, D. C., and the Hon. S. C. Hastings* (of Muscatine County), now of Portland, Oregon, and who in later years became a neighbor of the subject of this sketch (and no doubt they spent many a pleasant hour in living over again the events of their early Iowa lives).

It is well then, that while a few remain the history of the others shall be

*As we read this proof, tidings has come that Judge Hastings had just deceased in San Francisco.

told, and in this we have sought to place upon the historic record some few of the many events in the career of our old friend, that—

When over the roofs of the pioneers
Is gathered the moss of a hundred years,

the future historian of Iowa may have some data whereby to write our annals. To most of the living to-day the *early* "history of Iowa" is a sealed book. Even our public men of these later days have little knowledge, and take less interest in the events of the period of which we write, out of which have grown the grand results which meet the eye everywhere when we turn to view "Iowa as it is," and when the grandest and best things are spoken of those who helped "to make Iowa" and have passed away, we may say—

Such was our friend—formed on the good old plan,
A true and brave, and downright honest man.
He blew no trumpet in the market place,
Nor in the church, with hypocritic face,
Supplied with cant, the look of Christian grace;
Loathing pretense, he did with cheerful will
What others talked of while their hands were still;
And while "Lord! Lord!" the pious tyrants cried,
Who, in the poor, their Master crucified,
His daily prayer, far better understood
In acts than words, was simply—doing good.

At the third reunion of the Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers, held in Des Moines, in February last, a letter was received from Mr. Chapman, one of the very earliest of our members, expressing his great regret at his inability to meet with the few survivors, his contemporaries of earlier years. It was then that we learned that he had received a stroke of paralysis some three years earlier by which he lost the use of his right side. This confined him to his room and from which he never recovered and peaceably passed away in the afternoon of October 9th last.

Very much more might have been written of his life and great services to the two States with whose interests he was so long identified.

It was his belief that he and General Jones were the only living members of the Congress of 1838-40, and if his belief was correct then General Jones, our fellow citizen, is the solitary representative of that Congress.

During all his life, Colonel Chapman, who received his title by virtue of a commission issued to him by General Dodge, Governor of Wisconsin, before the separation of Iowa from it, was an active business man engaged in the practice of a learned profession which took him more than once from his distant home to Washington. When he appeared before the Supreme Court of the United States, where in the argument of his cases he sustained himself with credit. In these later years and visits he journeyed all the way from the Pacific to the Atlantic, from Portland to Washington, by rail, in palace cars, and he must often have thought how wondrous great was the change between his last and his first journey to the Nation's capital; going from Iowa at an early day with horses and wagons, and then from Iowa to Oregon with ox teams, which he himself drove through a journey of seven long months; now a single week sufficeth to bear a man from the setting to the rising sun as it journeys over our continent. The example of Mr. Chapman should be a constant admonition, stimulating the young men of to-day to press forward in honest callings and strive to excel in their work, that their

lives may be crowned, like his, with success and the world be the better that they have lived in it.

As we look back over the half century or more now passed, we are led to believe that Iowa is an especially healthy country, so many pioneers having attained an advanced age, and yet, "if by reason of their strength they be four score years and ten, yet is their strength labor and sorrow."

For to few even "are the days of our years three score years and ten," and the few still living, when they look back over the past and see how few remain, each may be led to exclaim, with Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes:

And if I live to be
The last leaf upon the tree
In the spring,
Let them smile, as I do now,
At the old forsaken bough
Where I cling.

JOHN ADAMS KASSON.

This distinguished statesman was born near Burlington, Vermont, January 11, 1822. He received his education at the University of Vermont, graduating in 1842. His legal studies were prosecuted in Massachusetts in which State he was admitted to the bar. Coming West, he first went to St. Louis, but removed to this State in 1857—settling at Des Moines. His great ability as a public speaker, his high culture, as well as splendid social qualities, brought him conspicuous recognition at once. In 1858, he was made Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, which position he held until 1860. He was chosen a Delegate to the National Republican Convention of 1860, at Chicago, which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. He was very fortunately selected as the Iowa member of the Committee on Platform. When the committee met to perform its labors of drafting resolutions, the subject was referred to a sub-committee of three. This consisted of Horace Greeley, John A. Kasson, and a third man whose name we do not recall. The work, however, fell upon the two gentlemen named. On reaching home Mr. Greeley, in an editorial article, paid a hearty tribute to his young friend for his marked efficiency in this great task.

Soon after the inauguration of Lincoln, the position of First Assistant Postmaster-General was tendered to and accepted by Mr. Kasson. He mastered details so spontaneously, showing the rarest aptitude for work of the highest class, that he soon became well known to the whole country. He was elected to Congress in 1862—serving two terms. In 1863, in the interval between the sessions of Congress, he was sent abroad as United States Postal Commissioner, without salary; and he was again, in 1867, a leading member of the Commission. The work he performed placed our postal relations with Foreign Governments upon the basis which they have retained until the present time. In addition to his great usefulness in this work generally—of which there is the most abundant documentary evidence—he led the effort to secure the adoption of the Metric System for postal

weights between Nations, both in the International Conventions and in Congress. Upon his motion in our Thirty-eighth Congress a new committee was appointed on Weights and Measures and Coinage—of which he was made Chairman. In the Thirty-ninth Congress he reported and secured the passage by the House of a bill introducing the Metric System of Weights and Measures. His report embodied a full statement of the equivalent values under the Metric System with those of the customary weights and measures. The bill was passed by the Senate under the leadership of Charles Sumner. The measure substituting the five cent nickel coin in place of the five cent paper money originated with Mr. Kasson. Gold and silver were not then in circulation and this was the first step towards abolishing all the minor irredeemable paper circulation.

A time had now arrived in which Mr. Kasson was at home in private life, but the people of Des Moines and Polk County, with very much enthusiasm, sent him to the Legislature, to which he was elected in 1868, and again in 1870, serving four years. In the House of 1870 he led one of the most notable contests that has ever taken place in an Iowa Legislature. It was upon the question of building a new Capitol. The bill met with the bitterest opposition—an opposition which now seems the strangest thing in the world, in view of the great popularity of the new edifice. He carried his bill through the House by but one vote over the constitutional majority. This work accomplished, he was again returned to Congress, remaining from 1873 to 1877. In this latter year President Hayes appointed him Minister to Austria, having first tendered him the Spanish Mission, which he declined. After remaining abroad during the four years of Hayes' administration, he was elected to and served another four years in Congress, 1881–1884. On the 4th of July, 1884, he was appointed, by President Arthur, Minister to Germany, where he remained until 1885. He was President of the Commission on the Centennial celebration of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, which was held at Philadelphia in 1887. Mr. Kasson's diplomatic work ended with the famous Samoan Conference at Berlin, in 1889. A controversy had arisen from the fact that Germany, in violation of a diplomatic agreement with this country and England, had attempted to acquire exclusive possession of the Samoan Islands, and make it a German colony. She had quarreled with King Maleotoa, had seized him and transported him away to another German insular colony. The first conference was held in Washington between Secretary Bayard and the English and German Ministers, in which England followed German lead and nothing was accomplished. A new conference was at last agreed upon to meet at Berlin, in 1889. President Harrison appointed a Commission of three persons, the chief being Mr. Kasson, whose appointment had, indeed, been suggested by the German Government, to which he was well known. The result was a concession of the leading demands of the United States, the return of the Samoan King, with a restoration of all the rights of independence to Samoa.

Since retiring from public service Mr. Kasson has held a Lectureship in History in the Johns Hopkins University, at Baltimore, the special topic to which he has given his attention being the History of American Diplomacy; this is in the post-graduate work. It is also understood Mr. Kasson is writing a "History of American Diplomacy during the Civil War," but we

believe he has never authorized the publication of any statement in regard to it. While retaining his residence in Des Moines, his time is spent mostly in Washington, where he has convenient access to the greatest libraries and collections in this country, though the condition of his health compels him to seek even a more genial climate than that in winter.

On a recent visit to our Capitol Mr. Kasson deposited in "The Aldrich Collection" his various commissions, from that of Justice of the Peace in Massachusetts, to those of the first-class missions he has filled abroad, together with a mass of interesting letters by Jefferson, Lincoln, Edgar A. Poe, Longfellow, Whittier, Seward, Sumner, Chase, etc., etc. Since he came to Iowa, Mr. Kasson's life has been a succession of honors, as well as filled with the most useful labors.

EDWARD LANGWORTHY.

This most estimable gentleman, who was one of the early settlers of the city of Dubuque, after a long and useful life, died at his residence in that city on the 4th day of January, 1893. On the afternoon of that day the following sketch of his life appeared in the Dubuque *Daily Telegraph*. It is so full and complete, and withal so just and true, presenting many dates and facts of permanent historical interest, that it is presented in full. Mr. Langworthy was a member of our Territorial House of Representatives in the years 1839 and 1840, and also served in the first Constitutional Convention, in 1844. He was really a Pioneer Law-Maker:

Edward Langworthy was born in St. Lawrence County, New York, August 3d, 1808, and was the third son of Dr. Stephen Langworthy. The family being a large one, to find better opportunity for its energies the father removed to Pennsylvania, locating in 1815 at French Creek. A year or two later he decided to seek the alluring land called indefinitely "the west," and the year 1827 found the family settled at Diamond Grove, near the present site of Jacksonville, Ill.

Attracted by stories of great lead mines in a mysterious place called Galena, James, the eldest son, went there to seek his fortune, Lucius and Edward remaining on the farm with the family. But it was not long before these two brothers also determined to visit the lead mines. Accordingly they left Diamond Grove in a lumber wagon, reached the spot where Quincy now stands, there taking a steamer for Rock Island. Here, for three days, they awaited the coming of the keel boat that was to bear them to Galena. And it was here that the youthful Edward caught his first glimpse of Indian life, as shown by the Winnebagos then at Rock Island. As early as 1829 James Langworthy had been a guest at the Indian village near the mouth of the Catfish Creek below the present city of Dubuque. And in June of 1830, James and Lucius swimming their horses by the side of their canoe, crossed the Mississippi, and nearly three years earlier than any settlement had been made in any other part of Iowa they stood on the river's western shore. In the February following Edward also came to the new lead mines of Dubuque, and ever since that day he has been prominently connected with all the interests of the city.

The story of the bitter tribal wars which opened this new country to the settlers has been told. The fugitive Indians returned to find white men in the mines of Julien Dubuque and since the government had not purchased their lands, it compelled these adventurers to abandon them until they should be bought. It is hardly possible to comprehend how much has been wrapped up in the life of this pioneer. We say of Edward Langworthy—he is gone! He, the old man, the last link in the family circle, the last of his clan. The years of his life were more than four score. But when we try

to recall even briefly, his history, we find it linked with much of our National development. When he, with his father's family, followed the route to the west his keen, boyish eyes saw much that has long passed out of sight now, in our land. Passing in a flatboat from French Creek into the Allegheny, and from thence into the Ohio, the lad looked with wonder on Blennerhasset's Island, with its deserted mansions and listened to the story of Aaron Burr. At this time the Ohio had never been disturbed by any kind of steam craft. At long intervals in rude clearings, might be observed the humble homes of pioneers. Wild birds sang in the deep forests, and about him almost unbroken was primeval solitude. He knew the city of St. Louis when it boasted of a mixed population of French, Spanish and negroes, of 3,000. He knew Chicago when it was a rude fort in a marshy spot by a great lake. And as he journeyed westward, he saw his mother fail slowly, and her new-made grave in a strange land.

Within his memory the vast aboriginal tribes of the Mississippi have disappeared. St. Louis and Chicago are teeming cities. Numberless towns have sprung into being. States have been born in the mid-west and in the far west. Steam and electricity have transformed the whole face of the country. The war of 1812 and the great Rebellion were within the span of his life, while he himself served in the Blackhawk and Winnebago wars.

His earliest home in our city (if the rude mining cabin of the Langworthy brothers be excepted) he built in 1837 on the corner of White and Fourteenth streets. We well remember its tempting orchard, whose apples blushing rosily, gave many a pang to boyish hearts in the young town. In many ways Edward Langworthy served his city, his County and his State. He was in the City Council and the Legislature—was closely identified with educational interests in Dubuque, and, indeed, with all that touched her welfare. He entered with his brothers into a banking business, where his financial skill found ample scope. For many years he has been a stockholder and director in the First National Bank, and also connected with the Norwegian Plow Works. Although some years ago, he retired from active business, he always retained his interest in the advancement of the city.

In 1835 he married Paulina Reeder, of Cincinnati, and his home on Alpine and Third streets, some years since, was bright with glow and glitter when the "auld man and the auld wife" celebrated their golden wedding. Though some time beyond the age of the chimney corner, his life was a cup, brimming over, daily. He loved to hear of the outside world. One by one his circle narrowed; one by one the pioneer band lessened, while he lived on to see every one of his family go upon the long, long journey. He watched Dubuque change from a mining hamlet to a beautiful city, to know that the grass grew green over a beloved wife. And when the angel of the latter day drew nigh he did not fear him.

Of a temper singularly equable and a clear and penetrating mind, he was most happy in all that tenderest love could do for him. Always, and to the last, daughters and son were with him, ministering as only love can do. For a time his familiar figure will be missed upon the streets where he has so long walked, for more than half a century. But his memory will not die. In the minds of his townsmen he will live as a just, honorable and kindly man. In the thoughts of that small, small band of pioneers he will be remembered as a true and steadfast friend. And in the hearts of his children he will dwell forever the pure, serene, gracious presence of a tender, loving father. And so, as he has gone from the whiteness of this earthly day—to meet the companions of his youth—may the good he did remain to speak of him.

GEORGE W. MCCRARY.

What is here set down, descriptive of the life and public services of Judge McCrary, is not intended in any sense as a complete biography, but rather as an illustration by a living example of the possibilities which exist for one's successful rise in life, regardless of what may have been his early advantages and opportunities.

Judge McCrary was born near Evansville, Indiana, August 29, 1835. His father was James McCrary, a plain, hard working farmer, in modest circumstances. The maiden name of his mother was Matilda Forest. She was a fitting help-meet for her husband, industrious, of deep religious sentiment, and of fervent attachment to her family. She was not only a model housewife, but possessed many traits of character which endeared her to her husband and children, and to all with whom she associated. She died in the summer of 1878, at the family homestead in Iowa. Her distinguished son who at that time was engaged in important official duties in Boston, at once obeyed the prompting of his devoted, filial attachment and hastened half across the continent to attend the funeral of the mother who had loved him, and whom he had loved so well.

In October, 1835, James McCrary removed with his family from Indiana, to McDonough County, Illinois. Early in 1837, he removed a hundred miles to the westward and settled in the southern portion of the then Territory of Iowa, in what is now Van Buren County, in that State. He was one of the earliest pioneers of that region. When he came to the country it was practically unbroken and virgin, peopled by the Indians and a few adventurous white settlers scattered here and there. He made his claim on the south side of the Des Moines River, within a few miles of the Missouri line. Indeed, his location was within the "Disputed Territory," claimed by both Missouri and Iowa Territory. From a controversy between the State and Territory regarding the title to this disputed tract occurred that remarkable incident in Missouri and Iowa history, known as the Boundary War of 1839, a "War" which resulted—happily without bloodshed, although on both sides troops were mustered and squadrons set in the field—in the verification of the claims of Iowa.

Judge McCrary grew to early manhood amid all the vicissitudes of pioneer life. In the toilsome drudgery attendant upon frontier farming he passed his boyhood and his early youth. He attended the common country schools of his neighborhood when he could do so without interfering with his work on his father's farm, and finally finished his scholastic education at an academy near his home. He was a close student, eager and ready to learn, and having for his preceptor in the academy, Prof. John W. Allen, formerly of Maine—a fine scholar and educator, he acquired what was, for the time, quite a thorough education. He was fond of reading, but wisely made choice of useful books. He had neither time nor taste for reading merely for entertainment and diversion; he chose rather to read for information and instruction.

When he was nineteen years of age he possessed a fund of useful, general information to an eminent degree, and was considered a prodigy of learning by the people of his community. Moreover, his parental instruction had been of a valuable character. By example and precept his father had taught him lessons of true manhood; and his noble and earnest Christian mother had early instilled into his mind the abiding principles of morality. A boy who is taught his duty toward mankind by a good father; and his obligations to his Maker by a good mother seldom goes wrong.

At the age of nineteen young McCrary entered the office of the legal firm of Rankin & Miller, of Keokuk, Iowa, as a law student. The senior member of this firm, Col. John W. Rankin, was renowned in his profession, and

the junior member, Hon. Samuel F. Miller, has been for twenty-six years an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Under the supervision of these eminent instructors the young man applied himself assiduously to his law studies. Gifted naturally, and working hard, he progressed rapidly, and in 1856 he was admitted to the bar, passing a rigid examination without making a single mistake. He at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession at Keokuk, Iowa, and subsequently was admitted to a partnership with one of his instructors, the firm name becoming Rankin & McCrary. He was an original Republican. His first vote for President was cast for John C. Fremont.

In 1857 he was elected to the Lower House of the Iowa Legislature, and was the youngest member of that body, but by no means the least in influence. In 1861 he was elected to the State Senate, and served four years. He attracted general attention during his terms in the Legislature, and steadily rose to prominence.

When not engaged with his legislative duties he devoted himself to his profession, in which he was very successful, and won an enviable reputation. In 1868, at the age of thirty-three, he was elected to Congress from the First Iowa district, succeeding the Hon. Jas. F. Wilson, now one of the United States Senators. He served, by re-election, for eight years. In 1872 his competitor on the Liberal Republican and Democratic ticket was Col. James M. Shelly, father of Hon. George M. Shelly, the well known ex-Mayor and Postmaster of Kansas City.

At every election he led his ticket, and the opposition opposed him merely as a matter of form, and to keep up the party organization. His career in Congress was largely of historical importance, as the country knows. A former biographer says: "Mr. McCrary remained in Congress eight years. Though one of the youngest of the members in years, his mature and unusual political sagacity was at once recognized, securing for him positions of influence. He was assigned to positions in the Committees on Naval Affairs, on the Revision of Laws and Elections. He gradually rose to leading positions in the House, becoming Chairman of the Committee of Elections in the Forty-second Congress. He there manifested a sense of perfect justice, a spirit entirely non-partisan, and a knowledge of election laws and precedence so thorough and complete that his reports came to be adopted almost as a matter of course. For, perhaps the first time in the history of Congress, he induced the House of Representatives to vote upon election cases without regard to party lines, and a majority of cases considered and reported by him were decided in favor of his political opponents. Justice to the line, righteousness to the plummet had been one of the lessons of his home education. In the Forty-third Congress he was made Chairman of the Committee of Railways and Canals, to which all questions relating to Inter-State Commerce, then receiving great attention, were referred. He prepared a report on the constitutional power of Congress to regulate railroad commerce among the States, taking the affirmative, and advocating his views with much power. In the Forty-fourth Congress, in which the Democrats controlled the House, he was placed on the Judiciary Committee. He prepared a bill to reorganize the Judiciary of the United States, which the committee authorized him to report, and which he advocated on the floor. It passed the House by a large majority."

Mr. McCrary made a most valuable legislator. He sank the partisan in the patriot on every occasion. His support of every measure was prompted by his belief in its justice, and not by the dictates of a party caucus. Always a Republican, never swerving from his zealous devotion to the cardinal principles of his party, he did not consider a proposition wrong merely because it came from a Democrat. The test questions he asked of every bill presented for his consideration were: "Is it *right* morally and legally? Is it expedient and for the best interests of the country?" His fairness towards his opponents, the manly and dignified position he took at all times, his love for fair play and honor bright—these are matters of record. One needs but to consult the files of Democratic journals to find them.

His many manly qualities, his large ability, the purity of his character, and his general personal worth received universal recognition, and throughout his entire Congressional career, conspicuous as it was, he did not make a single personal enemy, and was never the subject of denunciation or personal detraction, even on the part of his strongest political adversaries, amid the most excited and exciting debates.

Perhaps his greatest service to the country, while in Congress, was rendered immediately after the Presidential election of 1878, in connection with the Electoral Bill. Both parties claimed the election, and the public sentiment of the country was about equally divided in opinion as to the result. The excitement was most intense, and the situation was positively perilous, foreboding dissension and distraction, and possibly civil war. George W. McCrary was the first member of Congress to step forward with a proposition for the adoption of a lawful and peaceful solution of the difficulty. It was he who (as the records show) proposed the Joint Congressional Committee and was himself a leading member of it. He took a very prominent part in the preparation of the electoral bill—indeed, the measure was often called the McCrary bill—and warmly advocated its adoption in the House, often replying to the objections and arguments against it by his party associates. He was one of the Republican Counsel of the House before the Electoral Commission, and sustained the election of President Hayes in legal argument, which has been considered the very strongest, in many respects, made to that tribunal.

Upon the inauguration of President Hayes, Mr. McCrary was appointed Secretary of War, his commission dating March 12, 1877. His appointment was received by the country with universal satisfaction and was unanimously confirmed by the Senate, then practically Democratic. He filled that high office with large intelligence and complete success, and during his administration introduced or inaugurated some new measures into his department of the highest importance. He took an especial interest in the printing of the Union and Confederate archives and records in control of the War Department, and did much valuable service in connection with that important work in its early stages. "The Rebellion Records," as they are called, are among the most valuable publications ever issued by the Government.

During the great railroad strike of the summer of 1877, he acted promptly and efficiently, placed troops at the principal points of danger, and thus prevented the destruction of life and property, and checked the progress of the uprising, which, at one period, was so threatening and promised to

become so disastrous. This was effected simply by the presence of the United States troops. Not a gun was fired by these troops. In 1878 the yellow fever prevailed to a very destructive extent in the Valley of the Lower Mississippi. In their extremity the Southern people called upon the War Department for aid. There was no express statute authorizing the War Department to render assistance in such an emergency, and no precedent governing the case. Neither was there any law forbidding the assistance of the department. Secretary McCrary, therefore, promptly decided the question according to the higher law of humanity, and forthwith ordered the issuing of tents, blankets and rations in aid of the plague-smitten people. Requisitions poured in from the authorities of the afflicted Southern cities, who readily waived their "strict construction" ideas for the time, and these requisitions were filled with remarkable expedition by the Secretary's orders. The amount of good thus accomplished was as great as the spirit which prompted it was beneficent. While in charge of the War Office Secretary McCrary greatly improved the efficiency of the Signal Service, using his best endeavors to have the great usefulness of that bureau extended throughout our own country and others. Altogether his service in the War Department was conspicuous for ability, integrity and the industry and devotion with which he applied himself to the details and the general conduct of the affairs of that great department of the Government. After nearly three years of most valuable service in the Cabinet, Mr. McCrary resigned in December in 1879, to accept the office of Judge of the United States Circuit Court for the Eighth Judicial Circuit, composed of the States of Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado, an empire in territorial area, population and business.

His appointment to this position, considered in connection with his profound judicial learning and the purity of his public record and his private character, was most worthy and was greeted with great satisfaction by all classes. He received the unanimous confirmation of the Senate and assumed his duties in January, 1880.

Judge McCrary's career in the public service, and throughout has been most extraordinary and is rarely paralleled, even in this free country of ours, where possibilities are so great. Starting in life a poor boy in the wilds of the Western frontier at the comparatively early age of forty-five, he has served for six years as Representative and Senator in the Legislature of Iowa, for eight years in the Congress of the United States, for three years as Secretary of War, and had reached the eminent position of Judge of the most important Federal Circuit in the Union. He remained on the bench for four years, thus completing, before reaching his fiftieth year, a career of public service extending over a period of twenty-one years, and embracing all the departments of his government—the Legislative, the Executive and the Judicial. And in all his experience he had never met with a single defeat, either as a candidate for a nomination or an election, or as an applicant for appointment or confirmation. His record in the Judiciary is marked with ability and excellence in every detail. He brought to the bench not only a great weight of legal attainments but a remarkable aptitude for his responsible duties. The industry and ability with which he discharged these duties can be readily seen and comprehended by an examination of the five volumes of the reports of his decisions known as McCrary's.

Reports. The litigation which came before him, conducted uniformly by the ablest members of the bar, was varied in character and much of it was of superior importance, involving the discussion and decision of the most profound and intricate questions of American jurisprudence. His opinions, always clear, sound and comprehensive, attracted very general attention, and were almost universally acceptable. It is, perhaps, worthy of remark that his chief associate on the bench was his original instructor in the law, Mr. Justice Miller.

Judge McCrary resigned his judicial position in 1884, prompted, as was understood at the time, by his desire to enjoy more of the comforts of his home than was possible while traveling twice a year over his vast and extensive circuit, in attendance upon his duties, and also by a desire to better provide for those dependent upon him—an obligation overlooked and neglected in his devotion to the exacting requirements of his public service. He had never, for a single year, given up entirely his legal practice save when upon the bench, a circumstance illustrative of his great industry and capacity for work, and indicative of his love for and fealty to that "jealous mistress"—the law.

During all the years of his service in Congress and even while in the Cabinet, he frequently argued important cases in the court. His practice in the Supreme Court of the United States has been very extensive, and he has appeared as the leading counsel in some cases of the highest importance before that tribunal, notably a case involving the construction of some important provisions of the Legal Tender Act of Congress, and, later, what is known as the "Southern Kansas Land Case," being successful in both instances.

Upon his retirement from the Federal Judiciary Judge McCrary located in Kansas City, and accepted the position of general counsel of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company.

Judge McCrary has attained National celebrity in literature as well as in other pursuits. He is the author of "The American Law of Elections," a standard work on the subject, two editions of which have been exhausted and a third revised and enlarged, has recently been published.

In 1877, he received the degree of LL. D. from Iowa College at Grinnell, Iowa. In his religious views he was a Unitarian and for thirty years he has been a leading and active member in that denomination. In the recent discussions as to the religious position of that church, he took a prominent part on the conservative side, advocating in a series of letters published in a denominational paper a distinctively Christian basis for church work as against the purely ethical basis advocated by certain members. He has contributed to the *North American Review* and other prominent publications articles on questions of public moment and interest which have been well received. His writings are like his speeches, sound, logical, argumentative and convincing, never sacrificing the truth in order to round up a sentence with a rhetorical flourish, seeking to "point a moral rather than adorn the tale."

Personally, and in his intercourse with his fellow men, Judge McCrary is plain, affable, courteous and gentlemanly. His bearing is unassuming and yet dignified, his manner frank and upon the whole impressive—the reflex of a noble nature, the characteristics of a man of unimpeachable

integrity, whose life work and life record is without spot or blemish. He has never used tobacco in any form, nor spirituous liquors as a beverage of any kind. As a pioneer boy, legislator, statesman, war minister, jurist, lawyer and citizen, he has ever in conduct been the same, honest, faithful, incorruptible, and true. In 1857 he married Helen A. Gelatt, of Van Buren County, Iowa. To him and her five children she has ever been deeply devoted. The unalloyed happiness of his home, filled to the full the measure of success realized by Judge McCrary. It is small wonder that he deemed life worth living, since it yielded him so many blessings and benefits, so much of honorable distinction, and rewarded his efforts and his labors so richly and righteously.

NOTE.—The above biographical sketch of Judge McCrary was written before his death. It will be remembered that he had accepted an invitation to deliver an address before our Association, but when the time came—February 28, 1890—he was suffering from a slight illness which kept him at home. He sent his paper on “The Old Times and New,” which was read and greatly enjoyed by all present. Little did we think that was his last message to his old Iowa friends. But so it was, for he had then been attacked with the incurable malady which, on the 23d day of the following June, carried him down to the grave in the meridian of life. He was taken to his old Iowa home, among the people he loved so well, and laid at rest in the cemetery at Keokuk where everybody had known and honored him.

B. F. GUE.

EDWARD H. STILES.

This lawyer and legal author was born in Granby, Connecticut, October 8, 1836. Both his paternal and maternal ancestors were Puritans, and among the first settlers of Connecticut. He descended on the paternal side with Ezra Stiles, one of the early and most illustrious presidents of Yale College, from John Stiles, who came from Bedfordshire, England, and settled in Windsor, Connecticut, in 1635. His maternal ancestor, Thomas Holcomb, came from Devonshire, England, in 1635, and in the same year went with the party containing John Stiles and settled with them at Windsor also.

The subject of this sketch removed from Connecticut to Ottumwa, Iowa, where he commenced the practice of his profession in 1857 and steadily rose to eminence therein. In 1859 he was chosen City Attorney, and in 1861 County Attorney. In 1863 he was elected a member of the Iowa House of Representatives, and in 1865 State Senator. In 1867 he became Reporter of the Decisions of the Supreme Court of Iowa, a position which he continued to hold for eight years with distinguished ability. During this time he edited, prepared the head notes for, and published sixteen volumes of the Iowa Reports—from 22 to 37 inclusive, known as Stiles' Iowa Reports—which took and have kept a high rank among the law reports of this country. He also prepared and published in two volumes a complete digest of the decisions rendered by the Supreme Court of Iowa from the time of its Territorial organization, down to, and including all his own Reports. Those volumes were followed by two subsequent ones, bringing the work down to Volume 58 of the Iowa Reports. They bear the marks of painstaking and extensive labor, and like his Reports were received with great favor by the profession.

Prior to this in 1861, he had become united in marriage with Miss Emma Vernon, an accomplished lady of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

In 1881 he began to gather material for a "History of the Early Bench and Bar of Iowa," with most of the individuals composing which he had a personal acquaintance. This work has been persevered in, but delayed in its completion by engagements incident to a large practice, but will at no distant day be ready for the printer and given to the public.

In 1883 he was the Republican candidate for Congress in what was known as General Weaver's Greenback District, leading what seemed to be a forlorn hope against a fusion of the Democrats and Greenbackers. Commenting on this campaign *Harper's Weekly* of October 20th, 1883, said:

In the Sixth Congressional District the Democrats elect their candidate, Judge Cook, over the Republican candidate, Edward H. Stiles. But such was the popularity of the latter that the Democratic majority, which in years previous was 5,000, was reduced to less than 100.

In 1886 desiring to find a wider field of professional labor he removed from Iowa to Kansas City, Missouri. For many years he was distinguished as one of the ablest lawyers of the Iowa bar. The prestige of that reputation, the strength of his forensic efforts, his eminent legal ability and general culture have gone far to give him a like standing in Missouri.

In 1890 he was selected by the Republicans as their candidate for Judge in the Kansas City Circuit, but with all the other candidates on the ticket was overborne by the prevailing Democratic majority. In April, 1892, he was elected to fill a temporary vacancy caused by the illness of one of the Judges of the Circuit Court and served with signal ability. In November, 1892, he was appointed Master in Chancery of the United States Circuit Court for the Western District of Missouri.

HON. THEODORE S. PARVIN.

Much has been published relating to this eminent citizen of our State, but for the most part this writing has referred chiefly to his relations to the Masonic Fraternity. In the following article, prepared some months ago, for the *Iowa Daily Capital*, by Mr. Charles Aldrich, less has been said touching Masonic interests and more of Mr. Parvin in directions where his greater public usefulness will be more apparent and generally appreciated:

The editor of the *Capital* has requested me to prepare a few notes to accompany the portrait of this well known and most distinguished pioneer of the Territory of Iowa, and to give my own impressions in regard to his useful life-work. It is so long since Mr. Parvin came to Iowa that he almost ante-dates history. The memories of but few of our day go back to the time when he first crossed the Mississippi. His career from that early period has been one of distinguished usefulness—in fact, speaking from what I believe to be a just and impartial standpoint, I do not know of another Iowa man whose public career in far-reaching results has been more truly useful. This I expect to demonstrate in the course of this article—not by argument, but by a statement of simple facts.

Judge Parvin was born in Cedarville, Cumberland county, N. J., on the 15th day of January, 1817, and has therefore just entered upon his seventy-fifth year. Of his boyhood and youth I am unable to speak, further than that he was educated at Cincinnati and Woodward Colleges, Ohio. He emigrated to the State of Iowa and settled at

Burlington in 1838—fifty-three years ago. In August of that year he appeared before the Hon. Thomas S. Wilson, of Dubuque, then an Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of the Territory, as an applicant for admission to practice at the bar. A little anecdote concerning that event has been narrated to the writer, though I am not certain but that it may have been published heretofore. At all events it is worth repeating. Judge Wilson was at that time but twenty-two or twenty-three years of age—quite a juvenile piece of timber out of which to construct a Judge of the Supreme Court. (But we may truly say, right here in this parenthesis, that he acquitted himself with ability and dignity, so much so that he remained in the judiciary a long time afterwards. In fact, he won the reputation from this early beginning of being a very able and excellent Judge). Young Mr. Parvin repaired at once to the residence of Judge Wilson, upon his arrival in the then little village of Dubuque. Upon knocking at the door it was opened by a very young man, a mere boy in appearance. After the first greeting he asked, "Is your father at home?" "He is not here," was the reply, "but what do you wish?" "Why, I came to see Judge Wilson." "Well, sir, I am Judge Wilson, what can I do for you?" If the reader can induce Judge Parvin to tell this story at greater length, and with more particularity, I think he will freely admit that the reply almost took away his breath. But quickly, recovering, he said, "I came to apply for admission to practice law." He was at once and cordially invited to come in. We can give none of the particulars of the examination, but when he left the house he carried with him a certificate of admission "to practice in all or any courts of record in the Territory aforesaid." This was written and signed by "T. S. Wilson, one of the Associate Judges of the Supreme Court in and for the Territory of Iowa." Was the first admission of an attorney in the Territory, and the original certificate three or four years ago found a permanent lodgement in the collection of autograph letters, manuscripts and portraits in the Aldrich Collection, where it may be seen at this time. It is quite a venerable and valuable document. One of the happiest things connected with it is the fact that both Judge Wilson and Judge Parvin "still live," the one in Dubuque and the other in Iowa City. At the first session of the Territorial Supreme Court of Iowa, in November, 1838, Mr. Parvin, the junior in years of sixteen attorneys, was admitted to practice. He and the Hon. S. C. Hastings (former Chief Justice of Iowa), of California, are the sole survivors.

During the same year Governor Lucas, whose Andrew Jackson face used to appear on the bills of the old State Bank of Iowa, appointed Mr. Parvin Territorial Librarian. He also appointed him Private Secretary. About this time Mr. Parvin went east and purchased books for the foundation of the Territorial Library—to the amount of \$5,000. Governor Lucas receipted to him for these books, and the receipt, with Mr. Parvin's commission as Librarian, are in the Aldrich collection. Right here it may be well to repeat what I have written elsewhere, and more than once. Mr. Parvin should have been kept in the position of State Librarian from that day to this—for he has scarcely an equal—I fully believe no superior as a collector of literary wares, antiquities, materials for history, etc., etc., in the United States. Wisconsin had "a mate to him"—Hon. Lyman C. Draper, who retained the position until three or four years ago, when he was forced to retire by the infirmities of age. Draper was just such an active, energetic, earnest collector, and the consequence is, that Wisconsin possesses a State library and collections, surpassing all others in the West, and scarcely paralleled in the Union. A million of dollars would not buy it. Parvin was not retained, and our State then adopted the senseless policy of appointing Librarians for short terms. As a natural consequence the libraries of both States are most conspicuous—one for its great extent and value, and the other for its paucity, aside from the department of law. There can be no doubt that had Mr. Parvin been continued in this office, Iowa would have been fully abreast of Wisconsin, and possibly far in advance. The State would now possess collections worth a round million, and best of all, they would have cost the State comparatively little beyond the expense of housing and taking care of them. In making such collections the great point of difficulty is in getting the proper quarters for their arrangement and display. Gifts naturally flow into such collection by a sort of gravitation—if the collector is only wide-awake and alert, like Parvin and Draper. Had Mr. Parvin been retained at a salary of \$5,000 per annum, he would not only have earned every cent of it, but the State of Iowa could to-day make an auction sale of his collections and clear more than 100 per cent by that transaction, aside from getting back a good interest on the money expended! And then, the great

collection would have become as precious as the treasures in the grandest art gallery in Europe. It is strange that men who make our laws can never be made to realize and comprehend facts so simple and palpable.

The next position to which Mr. Parvin was appointed to, that of District Attorney for the Middle District of Iowa, in the year 1839. In 1840 he was elected Secretary of the Territorial Council. In 1844 Mr. Parvin united with the late Lieut.-Gov. Eastman and Hon. Shepherd Leffler, at the request of the former, and successfully stumped the Middle District of the Territory against the adoption by the people of the Constitution because of the Congressional boundaries cutting Iowa off from the Missouri River. From 1847 to 1857 he was Clerk of the United States District Court. In 1848-50 he was County Judge. This was a position in those days of much power and responsibility, as these so-called Judges not only exercised all the duties of Surrogates or Probate Judges, but also discharged most of the functions (with more of real power) now exercised by the Boards of County Supervisors. They could lay out roads, build bridges or court houses, and run their Counties into almost any depth of indebtedness. Some Counties are still paying the old debts incurred in the reign of County Judges, though Mr. Parvin's County is not in that category. He was for one term Register of the State Land Office, 1857-8. From 1860 to '70 he was Professor of the Natural Sciences in the Iowa State University, acting also as Secretary of the Iowa State Historical Society during the years 1864-5-6. He edited the *Annals of the Society*—a most excellent historical magazine—for many years, and has been a contributor to its publication from the beginning.

Since the introduction of Free Masonry into Iowa in 1840, Judge Parvin has been its foremost representative. He served as Grand Master in 1852. Before that year he had been Grand Secretary. At the end of his Grand Mastership he was again chosen Grand Secretary, a position he has held ever since. Largely through his efforts the headquarters of the fraternity were established at Cedar Rapids in 1885. A fund of some \$20,000 had been accumulated, and this was wisely devoted to the erection of a large, fire-proof Grand Lodge building. For many years, most probably as far back as 1840, he had been a collector of the publications of various secret orders, mostly, however, relating to Masonry. These, with rare generosity, he presented to the Grand Lodge of Iowa, continuing his collecting with a degree of zeal which knows no abatement, and will only cease with his life. That library now contains more Masonic books than any other in the world, aside from those relating to all other secret orders. But it is by no means narrowed down to these specialties. He has collected and preserved more books and documents relating to Iowa history than any twenty men in the State. These he also donated to the Iowa Masonic Library, and with other contributions constitute the "Iowa Department," consisting of works by Iowa authors, State and other documents relating to Iowa history. These, with considerable collections in history and general literature, form a library at once very comprehensive, aside from its curiously unique character. And then this most commodious and beautiful edifice gives Mr. Parvin ample room and scope to indulge his born proclivity for collecting. It would be a very difficult task to try to set forth the contents of the building. It is really a large and most admirably arranged museum. There is nothing like it in the Mississippi Valley, and probably not in the United States. Aside from the Masonic literature and other Masonic specialties, of which it has such a rich and varied representation, it is rapidly absorbing curios, rare and precious, from the four quarters of the globe. It contains numberless geological and natural history specimens, an autograph collection, rare books and documents, prehistoric stone implements and scores, if not hundreds, of items which may be set down as curios or bric-a-brac. It would require a ponderous octavo volume to catalogue the contents of this wonderful edifice, which has risen like an exhalation in the flourishing city of Cedar Rapids. One new and very interesting item, just received the last time I was there, is an especially fine collection of stalactites and stalagmites from the Dubuque mineral caves, filling a large case. These were searched for and brought out of the underground darkness by the owner of the cave assisted by Mr. N. R. Parvin, the son, and a most worthy and efficient coadjutor of the Grand Secretary. They were known to be very beautiful and most desirable objects for such a museum, and there seemed to be no other way to get them—at least that was the most direct and promising. That is the way the Parvins "get up and go" for things!

Many men are "collectors" and "nothing else." Mr. Parvin, on the contrary, is a man of the widest intelligence, possessing a wide and accurate knowledge, and in many directions. He once wrote a history of the "Newspaper Press of Iowa," from 1836 to

1846. That history has been the basis of all that has since been written upon that interesting subject. It has been copied, rewritten and dished up in so many and such varied shapes, that its author would scarcely be able to recognize his work to-day. But then no other man had the knowledge or was able to make the research necessary at this time to write such a book. Many of the early newspapers of Iowa have utterly disappeared—"died and made no sign." Geologists tell us that thousands of species of animals were "evolved" in geological times, of which no trace exists at this day, not the faintest. So of many of our early newspapers. Only an old man with a good memory could tell anything about them. He has written a "History of the Early Schools of Iowa," from 1830 to 1839, which is wholly unique, for no other man could do it. His sketches of the early settlers of many parts of Iowa can scarcely be numbered to-day, but the facts he here placed on record will live in the histories of towns and Counties, and in files of newspapers and magazines, and be quoted again and again long after their author shall have been gathered to his fathers. In our early years, before the government had done much in that direction, 1838-1870, he kept a minute and accurate meteorological record. This is also unique. It has been valuable in many ways. When Harper's Ferry was destroyed by the Rebels, it was determined that the United States arsenal and manufactory of arms would be located in the Union-loving and patriotic West. Rock Island was mentioned, but it was objected to on the ground that the Mississippi was closed nine months in the year and that "it would not do." But Mr. Parvin's scientific records, in the Smithsonian Institution, not only showed that this statement was untrue, but that Rock Island was the fittest place possible for this great work. And so, thanks to that gentleman, those who sat in authority over us located those great government works on Rock Island, where they will abide as long as the Nation shall exist.

Mr. Parvin's works included a "History of Masonry in Iowa," a "History of Templary in the United States," the latter for Gould's History of Masonry, one of the most grandly superb books ever published in this or any other century. The readiest of speakers, there are few men living who have delivered as many addresses, or upon such a wide diversity of subjects as Masonry, Early History, Education, Politics (in the olden time, long ago), Natural History, Social Science, Laying of Corner Stones, Dedications of Halls, etc. He delivered the address at the opening of the Supreme Court rooms in the new Capitol building, and whenever the Pioneer Law-Makers meet in Biennial Reunion, he is certain to be called upon for an address, which is always pleasant to hear and most valuable for its "Points of History." Mr. Parvin, as I have sufficiently set forth, is a most intelligent, as well as a most omnivorous and almost universal collector, taking to the work as naturally as a duck does to water. A great many of these collectors are a stingy sort of folks. That would seem so be the most natural thing in the world, for a collector is, "like Oliver Twist, always wanting more!" Things must be kept or there can be no collection. Mr. Parvin, however, is most whole-souled and liberal to other collectors. I have personally often known him to hand over rare and cherished objects to a brother collector, who seemed to be looking upon them with eager eyes.

To the library of the Davenport Academy of Sciences, the library of the State University, the State Library, the State Historical Society, and the Aldrich Collection, he has been an open-handed, liberal contributor, and to all but the last named, for a longer period than the lifetime of a generation. To the first he has given large collections of scientific books, and many specimens of great interest to the students of natural history, ethnology and archæology; and the library of the State Historical Society at Iowa City owes to him a large portion of its most precious contents. His gift of public documents is valuable beyond estimate, for it is now quite impossible to duplicate them. And besides these, he has given nearly a solid cord of bound files of early and later newspapers, and a large case filled with geological specimens, prehistoric stone implements, with many out-of-the-way objects and curiosities of greater or less value.

His memory will be perpetuated in all the directions named as long as those objects shall exist. The memory of men stands little chance of preservation unless they are "salted down" in print which is gathered into public libraries. If memories are not so perpetuated, they speedily perish. Of the men who filled the public eye twenty-five years ago, how few are remembered to-day! They have come and gone like the ephemera of a soft night in June! But in the libraries I have named the reader in distant future years, will find multiplied and most precious gifts from the ever free and gen-

erous hand of Theodore S. Parvin. They will also preserve the names and records of hundreds of other men, and not at all unlikely, of many who have looked upon his own work in this direction with coldness and distrust, doing their best possibly to thwart or embarrass him in his earnest and most patriotic efforts. No other Iowa man has built for himself so many, or such permanent and abiding monuments; and if, as Daniel Webster said, speaking of himself, "the mould shall gather upon his memory," there will be plenty of students of our Iowa history who will scrape the moss off from the inscription!

All honor, then, to the man who has done so much more than all others, to preserve the materials of early and later Iowa history. His will be one of the very few names of Iowa men which will be imperishable. His good works will live after him to the latest generation, "to the last syllable of recorded time."

It only remains to add that Judge Parvin continues to enjoy a reasonable degree of health, considering the number of years he has lived, and was never more useful or more active in the pursuit of rare and valuable objects for his great Masonic Museum, than he is at present. That his useful life may be prolonged for many and many a year, is, I know, the most earnest wish of his troops of abiding friends in all parts of this country, as well as of many beyond the sea.

Iowa State Library, February 17, 1892.

ADDENDA.

Through some inadvertence the list of members in attendance at the Third Reunion was omitted from its proper place in the proceedings, together with one of the resolutions. These items are therefore printed in this place.

LIST OF MEMBERS—THIRD REUNION.

Roll of members present at the Third Reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association of Iowa, which met at Des Moines, February 10, 1892.

| NAMES. | COUNTY. | BRANCH OF SERVICE. | YEARS OF SERVICE. | PRESENT ADDRESS. |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ainsworth, L. L. | Fayette, Bremer. | Senate and House. | 1860-62-72. | West Union, Iowa. |
| Aldrich, Charles. | Boone | Chief Clerk House. | 1860-62-66-70. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Anderson, Dan. | Monroe, etc. | Senate. | 1854-55-56-58-60, extra 1861. | Albia, Iowa. |
| Ballinger, Thomas. | Mahaska. | House. | 1868. | Oskaloosa, Iowa. |
| Baylies, Nicholas. | Polk. | House. | 1864. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Bemis, Geo. W. | Buchanan. | House and Senate. | 1860-72-74. | Independence, Iowa. |
| Bolter, L. R. | Harrison. | House and Senate. | 1866-74-76-82-84-86-88-90-92. | Logan, Iowa. |
| Bromley, Owen. | Jefferson. | House. | 1864. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Browne, J. M. | Madison. | House. | 1866. | St. Charles, Iowa. |
| Campbell, Edward Jr. | Jefferson. | House. | 1872, extra 1873. | Fairfield, Iowa. |
| Campbell, Frank T. | Jasper. | Senate and Lieutenant-Governor. | 1870-72-74-76-78-80. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Carpenter, C. O. | Webster. | House. | 1858-84. | Ft. Dodge, Iowa. |
| Cassady, P. M. | Polk. | Senate. | 1848-50. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Cole, C. C. | Polk. | Supreme Court. | 1864 to 1876. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Dana, John L. | Story, Hardin, Grundy. | House. | 1858. | Nevada, Iowa. |
| Dashiell, M. A. | Warren. | Senate and House. | 1868-72-74-80-82. | Indianola, Iowa. |
| Davis, John M. | Johnson, Polk. | Deputy Secretary of State. | 1854 to 1863. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Day, James G. | Polk. | Supreme Court. | Sept. 1, 1870 to Dec. 31, 1883. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Dungan, Warren S. | Lucas, Monroe, Wayne. | House and Senate. | 1862-80-82-88-90. | Chariton, Iowa. |
| Eaton, A. K. | Dubuque District. | House. | 1850-52. | Osage, Iowa. |
| Erierson, C. J. A. | Boone. | House. | 1872. | Boone, Iowa. |
| Evans, W. C. | Muscatine. | House. | 1870-72. | West Liberty, Iowa. |
| Finkbine, R. S. | Johnson. | House. | 1864-66. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Fulton, A. C. | Scott. | Senate. | 1855-56. | Davenport, Iowa. |
| Galland, Washington. | Lee. | House. | Territorial General Assembly. | Marshalltown, Iowa. |
| Granger, Barlow. | Polk. | Gov. Hempstead's staff. | 1850 to 1854. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Griffith, Isaac W. | Lee. | House. | 1848-49. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Gue, B. F. | Scott, Webster. | House and Senate, Lieut.-Governor. | 1858-60-62-64-66. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Hilton, James. | Monroe. | House. | 1872. | Hilton, Iowa. |
| Hollingsworth, L. | Keokuk. | House. | 1862. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Hunter, John D. | Hamilton, Wright, etc. | House. | 1868-70. | Webster City, Iowa. |
| Jones, George W. | Dubuque. | U. S. Senator, etc. | 1838 to 1860. | Dubuque, Iowa. |

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|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Keables, B. F. | Marion. | House. | 1870-72. | Pella, Iowa. |
| Knoll, F. M. | Dubuque. | House and Senate. | 1862-64-66-68-70-78-90. | Sageville, Dubuque Co. |
| Lathrop, H. W. | Johnson. | Honorary member. | Correspondent. | Iowa City, Iowa. |
| Leavitt, John H. | Black Hawk, Grundy. | House. | 1872. | Waterloo, Iowa. |
| Linderman, Charles. | Page. | House. | 1866. | Clarinda, Iowa. |
| Logan, J. W. | Webster, Calhoun, etc. | House. | Clerk, 1856-76, member, 1864. | Waterloo, Iowa. |
| Macomber, K. W. | Cass, Adair, etc. | House. | 1860, extra 1861. | Lewis, Iowa. |
| Maxwell, John S. | Clinton. | House. | 1862 and extra 1862. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| McCall, T. C. | Story. | House and Senate. | 1862-82-84 and 1892. | Nevada, Iowa. |
| McNutt, Samuel. | Muscatine. | House and Senate. | 1864-66-68-70-72. | Muscatine, Iowa. |
| Mills, Lewis. | Wayne. | House. | 1870. | Corydon, Iowa. |
| Mitchell, Thomas. | Polk. | State Binder and Printer. | Binder, 1858-66, Printer, 1868-72. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Moir, W. J. | Polk. | House and Senate. | 1858-74-76. | Mitchellville, Iowa. |
| Moore, S. A. | Hardin. | House. | 1862-64. | Eldora, Iowa. |
| Noble, Ruben. | Davis. | Senate. | 1864-66. | Bloomfield, Iowa. |
| Nourse, C. C. | Clayton. | House. | 1854 and extra, 1866 speaker. | McGregor, Iowa. |
| Parvin, T. S. | Polk. | Attorney General, etc. | | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Percival, C. S. | Des Moines, Muscatine. | Private Secretary. | | Cedar Rapids, Iowa. |
| Pusey, W. H. M. | Marshall. | Honorary. | 1846-50. | Marshalltown, Iowa. |
| Ramsey, A. H. | Pottawattamie. | Senate. | 1858-1860. | Council Bluffs, Iowa. |
| Rowell, N. W. | Monroe. | House. | 1868. | Albia, Iowa. |
| Schramm, George. | Union, Adams. | House. | 1868-1870. | Afton, Iowa. |
| Shaffer, J. M. | Van Buren. | House and Senate. | 1852-54-62. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Sherman, Hoyt. | Jefferson. | Senate. | 1862. | Keokuk, Iowa. |
| Shipman, Geo. C. | Polk. | House. | 1866. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Smith, R. A. | Muscatine. | House. | 1860, 1861 extra, 1862. | West Liberty, Iowa. |
| Sprague, D. N. | Dickinson, Clay, etc. | House. | 1868. | Okoboji, Iowa. |
| Stedman, E. M. | Des Moines, Louisa. | House. | 1858. | Wapello, Iowa. |
| Stubbs, D. P. | Benton. | House. | 1872, extra 1873, 1874. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Todbunter, Lewis. | Jefferson. | Senate. | 1864-66. | Fairfield, Iowa. |
| Townsend, John S. | Warren. | Constitutional Convention. | 1857. | Indianola, Iowa. |
| Williams, J. Wilson. | Monroe. | Judge District Court & House of Rep. | 1852, Judge 1853 to 1863. | Albia, Iowa. |
| Wilson, C. S. | Des Moines. | House and Senate. | 1852-56-62-66-74-76-80. | Huron, Des Moines Co. |
| Wright, Ed. | Polk. | House. | Clerk 1864-66, member 1878. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Wright, George G. | Cedar. | House, Speaker 1866. | 1856-58-60 and 1866. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Wright, James D. | Van Buren. | Senate. | 1848-50. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| Yeomans, S. P. | Lucas, Clark, Wayne. | Senate. | 1868-70. | Des Moines, Iowa. |
| | Clark, Lucas, Wayne, Decatur. | House. | 1854 and extra 1856. | Charles City, Iowa. |

The following, reported by the Committee and unanimously adopted, should have appeared on page 93, of this volume, immediately after the 2d Resolution. It was drafted and presented by Col. Warren S. Dungan, of Lucas County.

Resolved, That this Association most heartily approves the noble work of Charles Aldrich in the State Library, which has been so largely a gift to the people of Iowa, and warmly commends this work to the attention and fostering care of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly and the whole people of the State.

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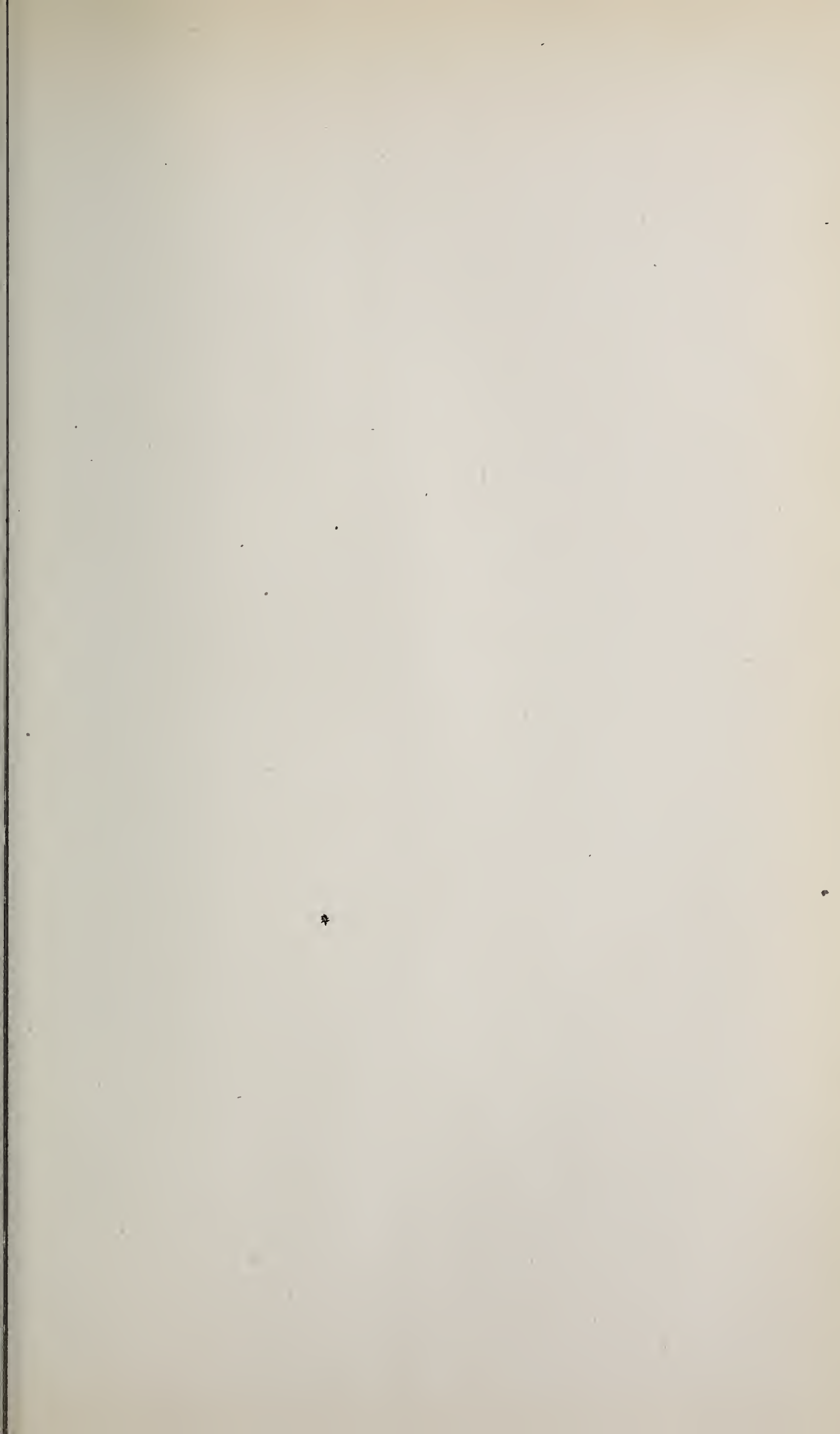
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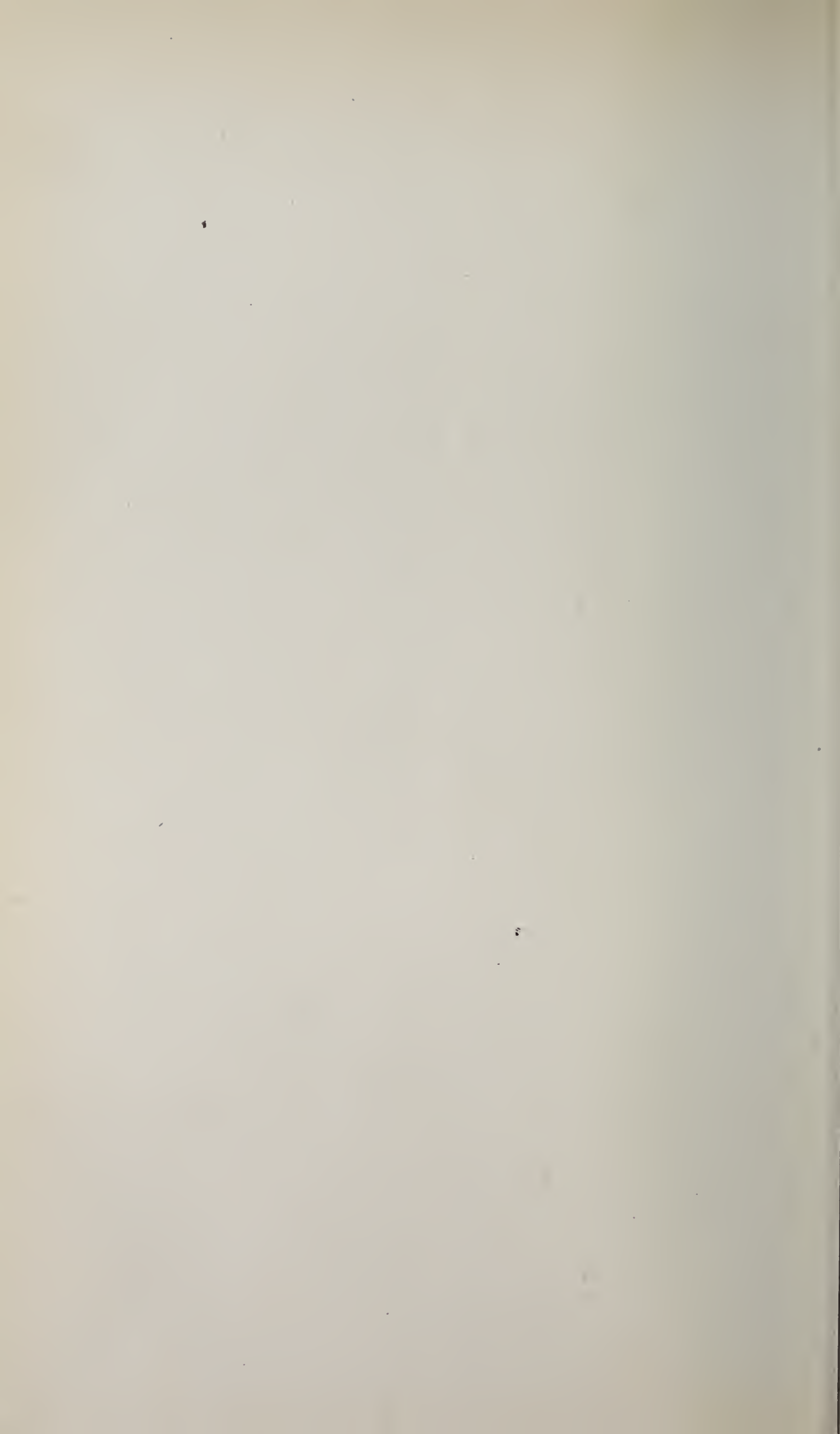
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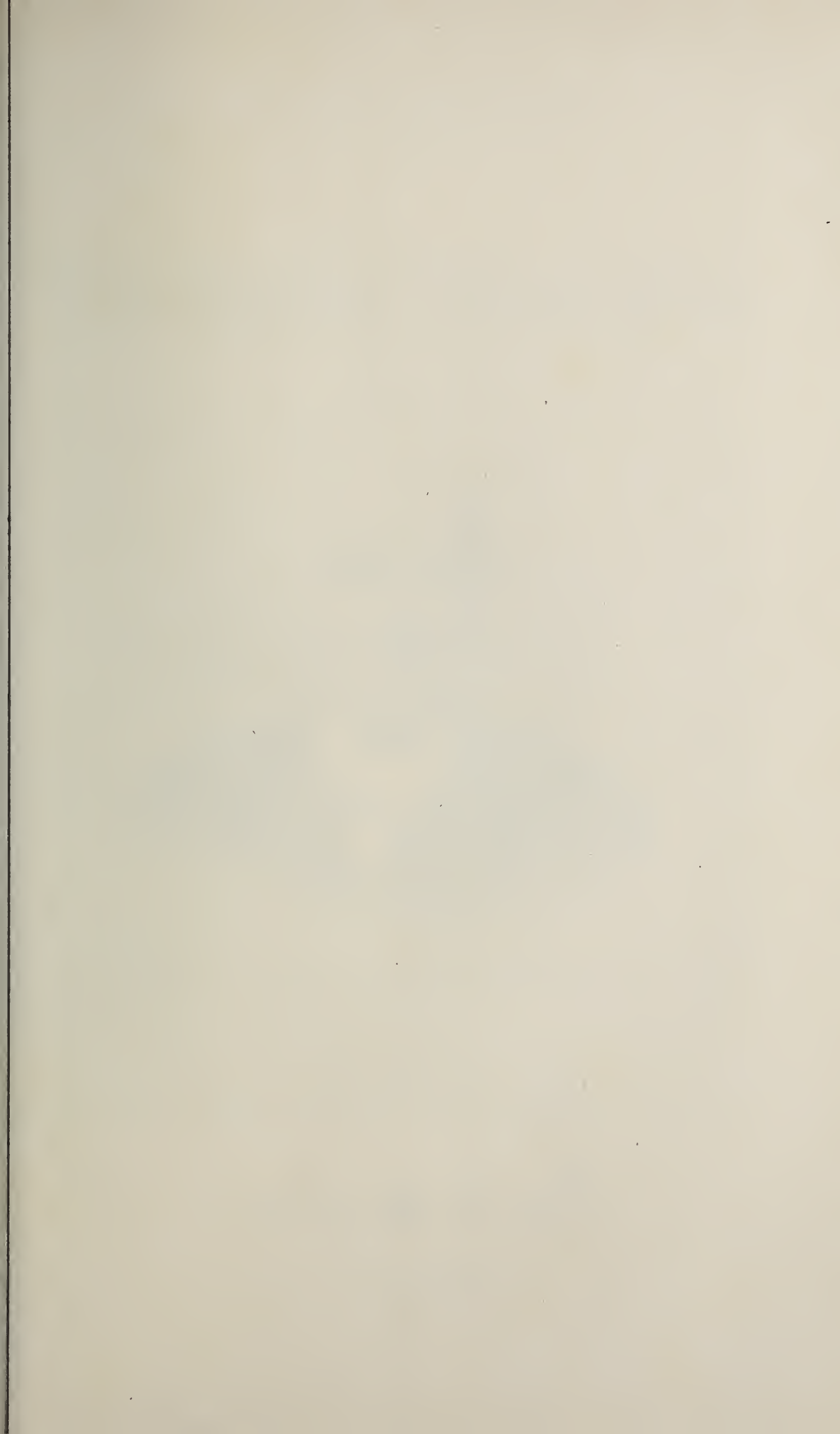
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Geo. H. Wright

PIONEER

Law-Makers' Association

OF IOWA.

REUNION OF 1894.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE ASSOCIATION, WHICH WAS PER-
MANENTLY ORGANIZED AT DES MOINES, FEBRUARY 28, 1892.

DES MOINES:
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1894.



FOURTH REUNION

OF THE

Pioneer Law-Makers' Association.

The members of the Association assembled in the auditorium of the Young Men's Christian Association Building at Des Moines, on the 14th day of February, 1894, at 9 A. M., and were called to order by Hon. George G. Wright, President.

Rev. A. L. Frisbie offered a prayer as follows:

Almighty Father, we thank Thee for our being; we thank Thee that Thy mercy has been upon us during the year past; we thank Thee for all Thy blessings extended to the people of this, our beloved commonwealth; we render thanks unto Thee that we have been permitted to settle and dwell in this great commonwealth; we bless Thee for this our State, with its resources, with its wealth and its people, and its promise of the future. Let Thy blessing yet be on this our Iowa; grant that it may go on progressing; may we ever be a virtuous, moral people, and that we may bear our part worthily in the union of which we are a part. We thank Thee for permitting these men by whom the people of this State were ordered and governed to come together once more to renew their friendships, and renew the history of the commonwealth and their individual experiences. We pray that as the years go by they may dwell in peace and happiness in this State which is their adopted home. We pray that Thy blessing may rest upon them. We ask Thy blessing upon the governor of this State, and the members of the legislature now in session; we pray for all these men, that they may be guided aright in all they do and in all their considerations of affairs of State that we may have the best citizenship, the best institutions; and so may it be for all time to come, and unto Thy name be thanks everlasting. Amen.

Music by the choir, "America."

The President, Judge Wright, then delivered the following address:

GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSOCIATION—It is with the greatest pleasure that I welcome you to this capital city of our grand and growing State, and to this, our Fourth Biennial Reunion. The experiment started in 1886 by a few of the early law-makers and officials to inaugurate these meetings, I am glad to

know has proved a pre-eminent success, and we meet now as heretofore, and as I hope will often hereafter, glad that so many can assemble, talk of the past of which we are not ashamed, of the present in which we have great confidence, and plan somewhat for the future, of which we are not afraid. I feel well assured that our coming together will, as have our former meetings, redound to the good of the State, revive many old and pleasant, and yet somewhat sad, memories, as we clasp hands, talk of the old, resolve for the new; and think of those grand pioneer spirits who have within the last two years, stepped from the "topmost round of the ladder of earth to their homes in the skies." Thus impressed, I repeat: I welcome you—dispensing as we have with the usual more formal welcome—to our friendships, to our homes, to our hospitality, to all that you deserve from the people of this growing and prosperous State to those who have done so much for it and them, and who still, as the years come upon you, have an abiding faith for the future—ever ready to form new resolves that Iowa shall be first in agriculture, first in schools and education, first in wise and just laws, first in a moral and upright population,—first in all that will tend to make us the noblest State of the Union; loyal to one flag, to the one Nation, with the largest "N" to be found in all the alphabet or expressed by any type; knowing neither north, south, east or west. So, without more, you are all welcome; thrice and a thousand times welcome.

Gentlemen—In what I have further to say in this paper, which custom demands of the occupant of the chair, may I not first and appropriately, call your attention to the sad fact that many of those with us heretofore or entitled to membership, have passed away since our last reunion.

I mention W. W. Chapman, S. C. Hastings, James D. Bourne, Joseph M. Beck, Hawkins Taylor, George Paul, William Vandever, Thomas F. Withrow, W. W. Williamson, John S. Townsend, William M. Stone, M. J. Williams, Ezekiel S. Sampson, Thomas C. McCall, Nicholas Baylies, Benton J. Hall, James M. Tuttle, Jeremiah H. Murphy, D. E. Brainard, Samuel A. Russell, James L. Williams, A. F. Brown, F. A. Duncan, George F. Greene (and there are doubtless others; I mention these from memory and without the aid of any actual record); but all alike actively, prominently and usefully connected with the history of the Territory or State, or both, prior to and including 1874. I need not say that the list is in all respects a noble one. We think of their lives with pride and pleasure, and yet cannot escape the thought that soon all must pass away, leaving to others the work entrusted to our and other hands by a confiding, hopeful and deserving constituency. Tears for the departed; confidence in the living.

May I be pardoned if I turn your attention to some other matters, and I shall hope to be brief. I said two years since, referring to the history of legislation and official duties generally, that it was easier to administer the affairs of a State once the foundations were securely laid, than to begin anew—to amend than to originate—to conserve prosperity than to create it. This is still true in one view, and yet, there are two sides to the proposition. When we think of civilization and its onward tread we always look to our jurisprudence for the mile-stones which mark and dot its pathway. Someone has said that the common law was a grand inheritance from our English speaking ancestors, and in this respect as in others, "America was the heir of all the Ages." With this law as the foundation, if civilization and new

conditions did not lead to new methods, theories, and substantive as well as adjective law, the work of those who are to amend, not create, would be comparatively easy. But when we reflect that it is not merely to keep the house on the old foundations, occasionally adding a little paint or plaster, patching the roof or replacing a decayed brick or stone; but that storms come, cyclones strike the edifice—that there is need, it may be, for an entirely new structure, and that law in this actively moving age is not a mere abstraction—as well one thing as another if settled and permanent; but must needs keep pace with the constantly changing conditions of the public mind and necessities—we can begin to appreciate how difficult the task of so-called amendments—the great work of conserving as well as creating prosperity. Apply this thought to Iowa and see what devolved upon some of you, and is part of the work of every legislator and official at this time, as it will be for the years to come, and you will plainly see that to amend and keep in the line of progress is by no means easy. Let me advert for a moment to a few of many illustrations in confirmation of this suggestion.

By the common law, the existence of the wife was almost literally merged into that of her husband, while her personal and all rights were such as belonged almost to the benighted days of English legislation and civilization. Her property, once reduced to the husband's possession, was liable for all his debts. The poorest and most despicable scamp could win her affections and be taken to the home of a wife, the purest, truest and best of the land, a home such as he never could have acquired by his own efforts (if he ever could have had any of any kind), and for poor whiskey, gambling debts, unwise not to say worse speculation, all she had could be swept from her to pay such debts, and she, it might be, turned from the home a pauper though it were hers by inheritance or will, or the result of her own industry and frugal habits.

For centuries and until Iowa had an independent existence, this, for the most part, was the harsh rule of the Common Law. Nor could she contract for or about anything without joining with her husband, and she was hence the abject serf of the home, the very slave of the household. Now, however, how great the change; how desirable the advance; how radical the overturning and upheaval of old ideas and rules! And this, the result of advanced thought, of improved conditions and a more intelligent and brighter civilization, to gauge and measure which correctly, and apply the proper remedies, was a work of the greatest moment, devolving upon those whose duty it was to build upon the foundations given to them in the beginning. And the good work goes on, is going on; for now she may have her own property exempt from the husband's debts, dispose of it whether real or personal by will, contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, prevent the sale of the homestead or its incumbrance or any contract in relation thereto, unless she consents to the same in writing; and how much more in the same direction I have not time, nor is it needful to state—resulting in the elevation of woman and her still greater protection in lines the most desirable,—to culminate it may be, and how soon no one can tell, some say the sooner the better,—in the ballot, to the end that legislation in the line of good morals and the upbuilding of the commonwealth may be the more certainly and sooner assured. We, as well as the wives and mothers

of the State, owe a debt of gratitude to the justice and wisdom of those who improved upon the foundations in this respect, and to none more than Charles Mason, the first Chief Justice of the Territory, and one of the Commissioners reporting the Code of 1851; as true a man and as sound a thinker as any of his compeers or successors.

Again, who would have thought fifty years since or less, when the last vestige of property, real and personal, could be taken from the poor debtor by the writ of the remorseless creditor, and that the common jail was for months if not years the unhappy home of the unfortunate and poor,—a remnant and disgrace of almost any so-called civilization; I say, who would have thought, as the relations of the individual to society and his rights were more intelligently comprehended, that the debtor's jail in Iowa would be forever closed; that there would be given exempt to him and his family not only hundreds of dollars in personal property that he might become a better and more useful citizen, but a home without limit in value, thus assisting to elevate all in the scale of good and desirable citizenship, upon the grand and constantly recognized theory that as a nation of homeless people never can be strong, you conserve national and state prosperity as you make the home more and more sacred. How to do this wisely and well was another delicate and difficult task, and especially as we had to build almost without foundations.

Then, too, go with me into a wider field and see the difficulties that have surrounded and still confront legislative, judicial and executive action. In 1838 and for several years thereafter we were without railroads and almost without banks; knew but little of corporations of any kind, whether private or public, and there was but little if any disparity between individuals as to the amount of property relatively owned and held by each. Our now immense mining interests were in their infancy. Trusts, combines, boards of trade, insurance companies, loan, trust, building and other similar associations, now all over the land for every conceivable purpose, from the "Owl Club" to enterprises involving millions and employing labor and skill almost without limit, were unheard of in our business. All corporations took life by special grant from the legislature and from that alone, none of them existing under general law. There were not perhaps, all told, one hundred private associations having corporate powers, and not one case in a year in any court involving corporate rights or the construction of any statute bearing thereon. And we, too, were in almost blissful ignorance of the schemes and machinations of a city or town council, of a township or county board, of railroads, banks, or the now numberless small companies, the latter organized apparently for no other purpose than to enrich themselves, cheat the people, get something for nothing, defy the law, defraud depositors, and take to themselves larger and increasing powers, whatever the results or consequences. Now, how everything is changed! Of all the cases in our courts, one-half at least in importance involve questions growing out of the acts of private corporations, and the number involving the powers of those public are constantly increasing. So of legislative action. More time is devoted to devising methods of limiting, restricting or defining the rights, privileges and powers of such organizations than to almost any and everything else. County and State officers are called upon daily to make record of and issue certificates to new corporations until they have reached

thousands in number—ininitely more, I humbly submit, than are at all demanded or necessary for the business or welfare of the people. The evil is growing, and as one after another of these mushroom concerns collapse and honest investors are cheated or made bankrupt, the demand increases for more efficient legislation as to numbers or the purposes of these organizations, or the most restrictive methods adopted for their government, examination, or it may be wiping them off the face of the earth. Limitations, restrictions and divestiture of powers; one or both or all; and the more the better.

But this aside, questions of the greatest moment are still constantly presented for legislative action and judicial determination between labor and capital, and so, as the world moves on with accelerated speed and new fields of enterprise and adventure continue to open, new schemes deemed necessary for man's higher development, and new implements for improving his condition, or to add to his wealth or means of livelihood; and as the greed for gain increases, and if possible, the means to be used are less and less regarded, will new questions arise, new legislation be demanded, old foundations torn up, structures entirely new deemed necessary; paint, plaster, roof, weather boarding, brick and stone of the old edifice either torn off or down, or attempted, it may be every two years if not oftener. How wisely, how discreetly, with what discretion and honesty, all ought to come to such work, and how difficult as compared with the infant days of our enterprises or industries will readily occur to all. We are too apt to look afar off to Congress or to the national arm for relief in time of financial or other like distress, or to turn biennially to our State Assemblies for correction of imagined or real multiplied evils which afflict the individual or body politic. We are too apt, I think, to look to law-making, law-tinkering, and not enough to individual action and effort for the welfare, integrity and prosperity of the State and its citizens. Give us honest and well regulated homes, intelligent school officers, faithful township trustees, good road supervisors and county officials, and especially, honest, intelligent and economical incumbents of our city and town offices; and above all, of our city and town councils; and it will make but little difference who are our senators or representatives; who is President, or in his Cabinet, or whether Congress makes laws the wisest or otherwise. The integrity of the Nation, in my opinion, is more menaced every day by the dishonesty, corruption or failure to well discharge duty on the part of those at home in our local offices, and especially in our town and city governments, than by all that Federal Congresses and executives may do or omit. Honest home government, economy on the part of individuals and their more immediate home officials,—these, in my opinion, are the first, main and effective steps to prosperity, and to good and safe administrations and governments, State and National. Thus build on the foundations we have and all will be well. And yet, as suggested, we are not content to thus work or thus act, and still apply to our State Assemblies and to Congress for new legislation, for amendments. And since we will probably continue to do this in view of what we esteem the enlarged capabilities of our people, the growth of our institutions and the needs of an advancing civilization, the work becomes more and more difficult and the demand for the best thought and most discreet action by every argument and upon every ground, greater and still greater.

But I talk too long, as usual. Permit me, however, in behalf of the Association, to express our thanks to prior General Assemblies for their liberality in providing for the publication of our proceedings, and their like intelligent action towards our Historical Rooms at the Capitol, with the added hope that our present and future law-makers will not weary in well-doing, but still assist, as the revenues will permit, a work so valuable to our State, and the preservation of its history, of which all may justly be so proud.

And now, Pioneers,—which means whether in the art of war, legislation, or generally, those who go before to remove obstructions and prepare the way for others,—our work is largely done. Time is making sad gaps in the list of old faces. Those in more active life, though cheering and useful, are not the same and cannot be the same to us. To us it remains to make the most of the opportunities before us while both body and mind avail us, participate in the work around us, and so far as possible, enjoy them. If numbers by death, disease or indisposition, are decreasing, let us resolve that the spirit for good, our pride in the State and resolves to do the best shall be unabated—never flagging. Is it said that we are growing old? Not so. We are not, or should not, except in years, be old; for

He is not old whose eyes are bright,
Whose bosom throbs, whose heart is light;
Though four score be his years enrolled,

* * * * *

O'er him whose inmost thought is true
The sky of winter seemeth blue,
For if a man have a heart of gold,
Though white his hair, he is not old.

Above all, let us love home, state, country and Nation. “God and country first, self afterward.” Be it ours to say in the language of another:

“We have climbed life’s hill together through sunshine and through shade, starting at its foot with the dew of youth upon our brows; we have together tasted the sweet and bitter of life; we have passed over the summit and are descending into the valley. But we shall be laid to rest in this land so sacred to us, so consecrated and endeared to us by joys and by sorrows; by hopes and fears; by prosperity and adversity; by earnest efforts for good, sometimes in vain and sometimes crowned with victory; and this land we leave to our children and our children’s children as an heritage; a rich, a healthful land, teeming with prosperity and characterized by civil and religious liberty and Christian civilization.”

And again, referring to our relations, and the duties of all, to each other and the public, I repeat, “*God and country first*” and *forever*; “*self afterward*” if ever; better *never*.

Hon. L. W. Ross, of Council Bluffs, responded on behalf of the Association as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT—The Pioneer Law-Makers are grateful for the words of welcome just spoken. We are even grateful for the words of approval and commendation. Approval is more agreeable than censure. Commendation is more pleasurable than condemnation. And, yet, we are not unduly exalted. In our respective places, as citizens and as law-makers, we have simply done what we could, and are now fairly satisfied with our work. Let me say, however, in behalf of those for whom I speak, that it is a favoring

providence which prolongs one's life, so as to enable him to read his own obituary. Unless we are to regard your statements as merely perfunctory, we may now and in this presence, congratulate ourselves as falling within the lines of this providence. We have the gratulations of the living, and in addition thereto, at least an even chance that unborn generations may rise up and call us blessed.

But, passing pleasantries, let me occupy the few moments allowed in speaking of the opportunities as well as of the deeds of the Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa. The painter may have genius, but without brushes, colors and canvas he can never unveil the divine nature within him. So the law-makers of Iowa may have been well endowed and may have been learned in jurisprudence and statesmanship, yet without the proper material in men and in country their genius and learning would have been valueless and their lives without fruitage. After an acquaintance extending through more than a third of a century, with the men and women of Iowa, I am ready to affirm that they have been and are self-reliant and self-respecting—the very highest types of manhood and womanhood. And as to country, no fairer land can anywhere be found. Here nature is at her best. The soil is generous, the springs are perennial, the streams are unfailing, the winds are kindly and the skies are favoring. Here, between two deep flowing rivers, studded with groves and underlaid with mineral, is an area of fifty-six thousand square miles already occupied by two millions of people and capable of sustaining a population of at least twenty million souls. With such men and women, and with such a country, the Pioneer Law-makers have laid deep and broad foundations, promising marvelous results in the near and distant future. From such material and with such opportunities representative men have appeared and a commonwealth has been established—a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

Under the fostering and protecting care of such a government, our population has grown from forty thousand in 1840 to over two million at the present time. The interval is only fifty-four years, but the average annual increase is thirty-six thousand two hundred and ninety-six. Since we have had no great cities—no considerable centers of population, we are satisfied with this factor in our growth.

I do not know the aggregate of the revenue of the territory of Iowa, or of the earlier years of our existence as a State. I am now advised, however, that the actual receipts and disbursements for State purposes alone, for the biennial period ending June 30, 1893, approximate the sum of \$4,000,000. Judging from the past, the amount necessary for the current period, will require at least as large a sum of money. When we remember that the revenue for State purposes is only about one-tenth part of the sum annually gathered from the people, we may begin to form some notion of the accumulated wealth of the State. I am told that the law-makers composing the present General Assembly; are now struggling with the problem of making a dollar of revenue meet four dollars of appropriations demanded. Unless they are wiser than their predecessors have been, they will be compelled to deny some of the extravagant claims in aid of our public, penal, charitable and educational institutions. The old Law-Makers cherish due pride in these institutions. They were present at the birth of many of them. They fully understand the devotion of the managers of these institu-

tions to their respective charges. At the same time we feel like counseling that the State should make haste slowly.

The old Law-Makers had much to do in devising a railway policy for the State. In 1854 there was not a foot of railway in the State. The land grants of 1856 caused the premature birth and abnormal growth of railway enterprises. The lack of practical knowledge in the building and operating of railways, and the limited amount of business, resulted in the sacrifice of a vast volume of individual and municipal wealth. Bitter disappointment and grinding poverty ensued. Disappointment and poverty met not only the early settlers, but the railway manipulators and wreckers. A whole generation has passed since those dark days. And now as we look backward, and out upon the present, and onward into the future, we must confess that the railroads have done much to hasten the development of our State, and to secure the prosperity of the present period. With nearly nine thousand miles of road, exclusive of trackage rights, distributed pretty evenly all over the State, we should not forget that the rights and obligations of the people, and of the railway corporations, are very nearly reciprocal. True, there is much unrest throughout the length and breadth of the State, but it remains for the legislator of the present period, and of the coming years, to adjust, as far as possible, the controversies between capital in one form and capital in another form, as well as the controversies between capital and labor.

A very interesting subject of study in practical government is found in our State institutions of numberless names. A summary attached to the last message of Governor Boies gives the names of these several institutions, and the cost of the same from the foundation of each. The list includes public, penal, charitable, educational and doubtful enterprises. The total cost to the State approximates \$20,000,000. It is not our place to criticise the legislation of the past—perhaps it would be unsafe to do so, for we were a part of the same and must bear our share of the blame, if any. Nor is it our prerogative to dictate as to the policy of the future. We venture to suggest, however, that the people's sifting committee might find employment in looking carefully into these enterprises. Governments should be humane, but never paternal. Too many people and too many organizations seem to be solacing themselves with the notion that God and the State will take care of them.

It is the office of the State to promote the well being of its citizens. One of the principal means to this end, is to teach them habits of industry and economy. The common father of all is good to his children, long suffering, and tender in his dealings with them. He is also wise and just. The State should make reasonable, not prodigal provision, for all who cannot provide for themselves. But the goodness of God and the charity of the State have their limits. Whoever schemes to multiply offices, and to feed from the public treasury, deserves to be treated as an enemy of the State. In my judgment there is really no place for tramps in government, either human or divine. Let me be understood, I do not say that the millions already expended have been wasted. There is indeed much to show for the outlay. We have a capitol building, adequate for the needs of a century. We have large and durable charitable, penal and reformatory plants, protesting against the inhumanity and barbarity of the past. We have school houses for every

four square miles, standing for public education. We have in our people a degree of intelligence and a warmth of soul, nowhere excelled. Admitting all these things, and expressing profound gratitude for them, I still insist that there is no place for tramps in government.

This is called a reunion of the old law-makers. It is now thirty years since the Tenth General Assembly occupied the old capitol building. The Senate roll contained forty-five names. It was not a brilliant assemblage, but it was sensible and solid. I remember with interest Gov. Eastman, our able and genial President; also Senators Clarkson, Cutts, Gue, Moore, McCrary, McJunkin, Parvin, Woolson and others, each in their places, intelligent, conscientious and patriotic. No deliberative body ever labored more diligently for the public good, and so little for personal aggrandizement. Of those named Gue and Moore survive. My memory of George W. McCrary is fresh and warm; though but twenty-nine years old he presided over the Judiciary Committee with the tact of a ripe lawyer and leader of men. His ability for legislative work was of the highest order, and had he remained in politics, and in Iowa, he would surely have been accorded a seat in the Federal Senate. There were in the Senate of the Tenth Assembly but three Democrats—Hesser, Jennings and Knoll; the remainder were all Republicans. The war of the Rebellion was then raging; to the credit of the body it can be truthfully said that all were unionists in thought, word, and action.

Two years later the Eleventh General Assembly convened in the same place, Lieut.-Gov. Gue being president of the body. The contending armies had been disbanded; Lincoln had fallen before an assassin's bullet; Johnson was acting-President of the United States. There was military, but not political peace. The work of reconstruction and rehabilitation was the subject of national concern. The Senate, this time, was composed of forty-three Republicans and four Democrats. I now recall Cattell, Clarkson, Cutts, Hedges, McJunkin, Moore, Parvin, Powers, Richards, Sampson, Stiles, Fitz Henry Warren, Wharton and Woolson, as being among the more active and influential members. General Warren was brilliant and scholarly, but his influence was much impaired by reason of his espousing the cause of President Johnson. He never, however, failed to contribute a wealth of information to any contention in which he took an active part. In debate, upon equal grounds, he was more than a match for the incisive Cutts, or the silver-tongued Richards.

At least one-half of the Tenth and Eleventh assemblies are now at rest, but their works remain to testify of their devotion to the public good.

The report of the Committee on Articles of Association was then read by the chairman, Hon. B. F. Gue, of Des Moines.

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

Name.—The name of this association shall be —

Who Eligible to Membership.—Its members shall consist of all former state officers, including members and officers of territorial and state legislatures, senators and representatives in congress, members of the cabinet from Iowa, United States supreme, circuit and district judges, members and officers of constitutional conventions, and state boards of education, judges

and district attorneys—who served twenty-five years prior to each biennial reunion.

Time of Meeting.—The reunions shall be held at the capital of the State, beginning on the second Wednesday of February of the years in which the General Assembly holds its regular sessions, unless otherwise called by the executive committee.

Officers.—The officers shall consist of a president, and one vice president from each congressional district of the State, a secretary and two assistants, and an executive committee composed of three members.

Election of Officers.—The officers shall be elected on the second day of each biennial meeting, and hold their offices two years or until their successors are chosen.

Inaugural Address.—The address of the president shall be delivered at the opening of each biennial reunion.

Committee on Publication.—On the morning of the first day of each reunion, the president shall appoint a committee on publication, whose duty it shall be to take charge of all papers read or received at the various sessions, including resolutions, and letters from absent members, and preserve all records of such meetings. This committee shall, with the assistance of the secretary, prepare the proceedings of each session for publication, and supervise the printing and distribution of the same, and mail a copy of the proceedings to each member.

Enrollment of Members.—At the opening of each session the president shall invite all members present to enroll their names, giving their terms of official service, place of birth, number of years in Iowa, and present post-office address. These statistics shall be published with the proceedings.

Standing Committees.—The president shall at each session appoint a committee on statistics, consisting of one from each congressional district, whose duty it shall be to prepare a biographical sketch of such members as may die during the two years intervening between the time of their appointment and the next reunion. It shall be the duty of each member of this committee to prepare biographical sketches of such members as may die in the district in which he resides, all of which shall be reported to the next succeeding reunion for publication.

The following additional committees shall be appointed before the adjournment of the forenoon session of the first day of each reunion:

First.—On nominations for officers, five members.

Second.—On resolutions, five members.

Third.—To visit the governor and convey to him an invitation to attend the sessions of the reunion. Two members.

Fourth.—To visit each house of the general assembly and extend to them an invitation to meet with the Old Law-makers. Four members, two for each house.

Executive Committee.—It shall be the duty of the executive committee to make all necessary arrangements for each successive reunion, and to fill all vacancies in offices.

All officers of this Association shall perform the duties ordinarily devolving upon such offices.

The name being left blank in the Articles of Association, after

some discussion and the suggestion of a number of names, it was moved by Mr. Aldrich that the old name, "Pioneer Law-Makers' Association," be retained for the present, which motion was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Aldrich the report of the committee on Articles of Association was adopted as read.

The President then announced the committees, as follows:

Executive Committee—Maj. Hoyt Sherman, Gen. Ed Wright and Col. G. L. Godfrey.

Publication Committee—Hon. Chas. Aldrich, Hon. B. F. Gue and Hon. Lafayette Young.

Statistics—Hon. J. M. Shaffer, of Keokuk; H. W. Lathrop, of Iowa City; Peter Melendy, Reuben Noble, T. S. Parvin, S. A. Moore, Lewis Todhunter, R. D. Kellogg, Chas. Linderman, John Y. Stone, Gov. C. C. Carpenter and W. L. Joy.

Nominations—P. M. Casady, T. S. Parvin, L. L. Ainsworth, F. M. Knoll and N. W. Rowell.

Resolutions—J. B. Powers, of Dubuque, P. P. Henderson, of Warren, Samuel McNutt, Col. Alonzo Abernethy and Washington Galland.

To wait upon the Governor—Ex-Governor B. R. Sherman and Hon. L. W. Ross.

To wait upon the House—Judge Noble and G. W. Bemis.

To wait upon the Senate—Ex-Lieut. Govs. Scott and Campbell.

The following address was then delivered by Hon. J. H. Powers, on "A Trip to Des Moines in 1860:"

Rushing into the city by the first train, having taken the sleeper at

"That hour, o' night's black arch the key-stane,"

I found myself in Des Moines in time for breakfast, and ere the duties of the day called for care, was ready for the labors of the hour.

The contrast of this, with a journey from the same place to the capitol in 1860, makes the tales of the Arabian Nights fade into common-place every day occurrences, and the wonders of boyhood's imagination more than equalled by passing events.

Without public conveyance to my home in Chickasaw, to Des Moines, only by stage to McGregor, thence via. Chicago to a point at the terminus of the railroad west of Davenport, thence by stage to the law-making city, it appeared to be too much of a swing around the circle to be inviting, and it was decided that we take private conveyance across the State.

Having married a young wife, after my nomination to the senate, and, as it did not seem fitting to leave her on the bleak prairies in the north part of the State, provision had to be made for the transportation of more than one, and as there was but one covered carriage in the county, and I had hired that to bring my new wife to her new home, and as it would carry only two persons without baggage, other means than riding in style of a wedding trip had to be provided.

In the emergency Wm. Tucker, since a member of the house of representatives, consented to take his democrat wagon and convey us to the scene of my new duties.

We started from New Hampton on the last day of the year 1859, with the mercury 26 degrees below zero. We made the first ten miles to Chickasaw and stopped to warm and get dinner. About four o'clock we started for Waverly, and on reaching Horton, fifteen miles, we were obliged to stop to warm. Having warmed and eaten supper we rode to Waverly, reaching there about nine o'clock. Stopping at the first hotel we came to, we took up quarters for the night. On the morning of the first day of January, 1860, the mercury in the thermometer was congealed, and the shell of a house where we stopped, was feeble protection from the cold, and I started across the pond on the ice. There was a little strip of my face exposed, and when I brought up at the hotel, found there was a line of white marking the place of exposure, but it was soon thawed by an application of snow. In the evening we started for Cedar Falls, but so intense was the cold that when we reached Janesville we stopped to warm, reaching Cedar Falls about ten o'clock and found the hotel full, but warm. The next morning was stormy and blustering, but it had warmed up so that the thermometer only marked 26 degrees below zero. Here our party was increased by the addition of Zimri Streeter, the representative from Black Hawk county, and known as "Old Black Hawk," Senator Brown, Editor Smead and several others.

We started to cross Grundy county to Steamboat Rock, distant twenty-six miles, without an intervening house. It snowed all day and progress was slow, and as the cold increased I felt uneasy about the safety of my wife, as she was suffering intensely. A little after dark she was disposed to be quiet, and said she was not as cold as she had been. Knowing too well what this meant, I wrapped her with all the robes and commenced rubbing and shaking her, and on reaching a little sod house about five miles from Steamboat Rock, we stopped to warm, and then it was clear that my wife had barely escaped freezing. The balance of the company went on and had fires built and supper ready when we arrived. In preparing supper the landlady had used all their supply of flour. When we came to retire we were placed in an icy cold room, and on opening the bed we found that one of the sheets was a linen table cloth. It may seem jolly to recall this little incident, but to go into a cold room after having been in the cold all day, with the thermometer 40 below zero and try to warm up a linen table cloth used as the upper sheet, was no laughing matter.

As we had exhausted the hotel's supplies for supper we were obliged to go to Eldora for breakfast. The next morning my wife learned a lesson that may well be heeded by weary travelers, for going through the hotel kitchen the appearance was such that it destroyed her appetite for breakfast. Another day of weary travel and cold brought us to Nevada, Story county, where we passed a comfortable night. Starting the next morning with the prospect of reaching our destination that evening, and having our company increased by the addition of several teams carrying members and senators, we were in good spirits. About sundown we began to feel uneasy, as we saw no symptoms of the town, and seeing a smoke in the distance we turned our teams to the little house on the prairie and on reaching it found that we had taken the wrong road and were then eleven miles from Des Moines.

It was now growing dark and we were assured by the owner that we



Yours Truly,
J. H. Townes,



could not stay all night. At this "Old Blackhawk" jumped out and told us to unload, as there was plenty of room for both man and beast. The cattle were turned out of the straw barns and the horses put in and we took down the beds so as to make room for all to get into the house. In a short time another lost load came up and "Old Blackhawk" told them to put out their horses and come in as there was plenty of room. The robes and blankets were laid in a shed and myself and wife were thus provided with sleeping apartments while the balance of the guests improved their time in baking biscuits. We reached Des Moines the next day about 11 o'clock and stopped at the Grout House on the east side and at the foot of capitol hill.

At the extra session I came down on horseback in five days, sleeping one night on the prairie, having been lost.

As scarcely a hamlet in the State is more than twenty-four hours distant from the capitol, at the present time, and as we the old pioneers see and feel the progress of the last third of a century, we look back upon those early privations and hardships and gloat over the fact that we were present at the laying of the foundation.

Col. John Scott, of Story county, took the floor and addressed the president as follows:

The stories we have heard this morning call us back to the very early days and turn my mind to a certain time in 1843 when I entered the court house, which, if I remember rightly, was in a boiler shop over a small grocery below in the then slowly growing city of Keokuk. The bench consisted of an up-turned dry goods box, a very solid foundation it seems to me at this distance as I remember it—a solid foundation certainly for the bench. Now as you are kind enough to say you remember it well, so do I. I remember, too, about that time, within a few days after that, I saw the foundations of the capitol—that was to be the capitol building of the State of Iowa, then in course of erection in the then capital of the State, Iowa City. That building still stands and is devoted to proper and valuable uses for the State. Years after that, sir, I came to this village, and the workmen were at that time building a temporary capitol for the State again. The old building, sir, which you remember so well and with which you were so intimately connected, and with which your history as a public official is most prominently connected in the history of this State—a history, sir, that all of these gentlemen will join me when I say many pages of which you have yourself brightly illuminated. As we passed many years up and down the stairway of that old building the steepness of the road made it convenient for us to pass our hands upon the rail—to clasp the rail of the stairway as we went up to assist us in our ascent and when we came down to steady us as we approached the regions below. You yourself, sir, were familiar with the old court room in the capitol at Iowa City, no man perhaps more familiar than yourself with the hand rail of the stairway of the capitol as it once stood. And I remember when I stood at your side at the fair ground as we looked across and saw the old capitol go up in smoke and ashes. Mr. President, there is no one here of all this—after the discussion which we have had, sir, I hardly know what word to use; I do not like to say old, I do not like to say pioneer, but I will say of the members of this Association, there is probably no one here, but what remembers the stairway, and whose hand

has not clasped the rail of that stairway in that capitol. Mr. President, it did not all go up in smoke nor down in ashes. Some of it yet remains, and I have been requested to call your attention, sir, to the practical use that may be made of a relic of the two capitol buildings of Iowa which are no longer used as such. It is composed in part of a round of a chair from the supreme court room of the capitol at Iowa City. I am requested, sir, at this inopportune moment, to present this to you. And as I sat here I have noticed that your hands are not horny as mine with honest toil, and have been, I trust, not bruised when pounding in your efforts to keep order in this assembly.

I thank the gentlemen who constituted this committee to ask me to present this to you that you may not be under the necessity of calling this assembly to order as you have heretofore. I do this, sir, with much pleasure. I pass it to you, sir, with the hope that the day may be far distant when it shall pass as an heirloom to those who shall come after you.

Here Col. Scott handed the gavel to the president, Judge Wright, who responded as follows:

Col. Scott, for yourself and those you represent, and especially in view of the very precious material in this gavel, I give you thanks.

I was especially reminded, Colonel, when you, at an inopportune moment, called attention to the very great difference between your hands and mine, I was specially reminded of that letter you wrote when some person from the north, when you were president of the State Agricultural Society (assuming that you were well up on all agricultural subjects), who had just settled in the northern part of the State from Vermont wrote: "Dear Colonel: I am just from Vermont and have settled in the northern part of the State, and since you are president of the State association I assume that you can give me advice. I propose to go into sheep husbandry. What shall I do?" And you wrote him to buy "The hydraulic ram by all means, that it was better than a Merino for mutton, or a South-Down for wool." So I can understand there is a great difference between you and me, for I never would have confounded sheep to that extent. I thought also, Governor, as you said the fine things you did of me, of the ready ability you possess in that direction, and queried in my own mind where you got this, but you remember my definition of a Scotchman—"A Scotchman is a man who keeps the ten commandments and everything else he can get his hands on."

I take all back I have said upon this subject. I have the kindest of feelings toward you. I do not believe you would keep anything unless it may be the ten commandments!

I shall keep this gavel and turn it over to my successor at the adjournment of this meeting, and it is especially proper that it should come as it does, from one so distinguished in our State as Governor Scott, one who has held the gavel with such distinguished ability, and made from the material it is, from the old capitol and from the old chair that has been distinguished by some of the ablest in the State in days past. (Of course I omit myself in that.) I thank you again, Governor, for it.

A committee from the House arrive and were announced.

REPRESENTATIVE EARLY—Mr. President and Pioneer Law-makers, the House of the Twenty-fifth General Assembly extend to your Association an invitation to visit the General Assembly this afternoon at any hour you may select.

Gov. Gue said:

I move that the invitation so kindly tendered be accepted.

Seconded and carried.

The President said:

On behalf of the Association, gentlemen, I return thanks for your invitation and we shall take pleasure in calling upon you this afternoon.

On motion the committee were invited to seats on the platform.

Song by Mrs. Jesse Cheek.

The Association then adjourned to 1:30 P. M.

At 1:30 P. M. the meeting was called to order by the president.
Music by the choir—"Bonnie Doon."

The President said:

The next thing in order is five-minute speeches. I will call on Col. S. A. Moore.

Col Moore said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—I am wholly at a loss; I do not know what to say. It would perhaps have been better for me to have had a little time to pull myself together so I would have something to say. I did not have the pleasure of meeting with the old law-makers this morning, nor since their last meeting have I met but two of them. The first thought that occurred to my mind when I came to this place was, that there were many of you whom I have had the pleasure of meeting in other days, when my county thought proper to entrust me with the responsibility of legislating in her behalf. I was many years younger than now; that was thirty years ago, and I must say for my excessive modesty, I felt it was a burden I could not carry, and I could not lay it down. And when I to-day look over the faces of these old friends, I might say, there is a feeling of sadness comes over me. When I look upon the wrinkled brows of these old men who have trod the rough path of the world by my side, and when I remember that it will be but a little time until we shall cease to come and go and look on the faces of each other; yet there is one comforting reflection about it; we have simply done our duty. And if it is true, and I believe it is, that we are to be remembered only by what we have done, then I am willing to look the record in the face, and I believe the old senators are all willing to do so too. It happened to be our fortune, a good many of us, to be entrusted with legislation for the State in the most trying times that ever come to a State. While it has been

my fortune to meet with a good many of the younger members, those to whom are entrusted the affairs of the State now, I am proud to say we have entrusted the legislation of the State to competent men, who will faithfully discharge every duty imposed upon them; that they will carry out, add to, and build upon the foundation we have laid.

I do not know what to say to you. I am sometimes almost overwhelmed with grief at the changes that have come across those old men. I met an old senator yesterday, one who is much younger than myself, and I hardly knew him. The ravages of time had come upon him; there was silver in his hair. But yet after all, the same warm sunny hearts beat in the bosoms of these old comrades, and when the last hour of death comes, they will go down and meet death as they have met every difficulty in life. I feel, oh! senators, that it is well. Let us go down holding each other by the hands. We have met responsibilities as they came, and we will guide each other's feet down into the silent tomb. I do not want to lose my hold on the old comrades, until we reach the other shore.

The President called upon Col. W. J. Moir, of Hardin county, who said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—When I look around me and see so few that occupied seats with me in the Ninth General Assembly—

“I feel like one who treads alone
Some banquet hall deserted,
Whose lights are fled,
Whose garlands dead,
And all but he departed.”

A Scotchman could hardly risk listening to the song we have just heard without being inspired to talk, but I do not feel like talking very much on the present occasion. I am glad to meet those who settled with me in this State at an early date. I am glad to meet those who settled in this State before I did, and I might say laid the foundation of the prosperity of this State before I was honored with a seat in the Legislature. I know there are many here to-day who remember times away back in Territorial Iowa; no doubt some of you remember the time when the Constitution was adopted in 1846; no doubt you remember those times when the boundary of this State was not fixed as it now is. No doubt many of you remember the time when up and down the Des Moines River a man would have lost his political head if he had undertaken to vote against the Des Moines River Improvement. I remember very well in 1864 the principal discussion and the principal point at issue during that year was whether there should be a resumption of the lands that had been given to the railroads. You no doubt remember it. You no doubt remember the issue. I did not know but what I would lose my political head if I supported the resumption. I am not certain whether I did. Now the State of Iowa is second in railroads, Illinois being first. This grand State we now occupy is not second in anything else. It is first in acres of tillable land; first in corn and hogs, and first in the intelligence of its people. No other state, nation or clime can, with proud Iowa, say there is only 2.4 per cent of its adult population that cannot read. It is second in school teachers, New York being first, and the man who does not feel proud of that, who lives in Iowa, ought to buy the fleetest horse he can find and ride until he reaches sundown.

I said it was not popular at one time to work against Des Moines River improvements. I believe it has become a matter of history for our children to read that two certain men in 1850 were running for Congress. One was named Barnhart Henn, and the other you can guess at. In traveling around one day they saw a man in a corn-field. They started to run to see who should reach there first. It was said Barnhart Henn was swiftest and got there first. When he held out his hand hurralling for the Des Moines River Improvement, he found he was holding out his hand to a scarecrow.

My fellow citizens, this is a grand State; our Nation is a grand Nation; we live in the acme of ages so far as improvements are concerned. It is wonderful when we look back to see the improvements that have been made in the great State of Iowa; it would not do to say we will not ride in the air in a short time.

The Association took a recess until 7 P. M., for the purpose of visiting the State House.

At 2:30 the members met at the rotunda of the capitol and proceeded in a body to the Executive rooms and were presented to the Governor by Judge Wright, who said:

Governor Jackson, we come down to you from a former generation. I present to you my colleagues, members of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association.

Governor Jackson said:

I want to express to you my fellow citizens the great honor I feel in receiving this call from the pioneer law-makers of Iowa. Sometimes when I think of the State of Iowa in its magnificent progress and its standing to-day, my thoughts frequently go back to the early days in the history of Iowa, and I am reminded sometimes of the illustration of a train of cars going over some magnificent bridge. People stand upon the platform and admire its architecture; they see the elegant proportions of the bridge, its heavy timbers, etc., with trains crossing them safely year after year and year after year, and have no thought of the foundation work away down deep beneath the surface of the water, where possibly a few giant boulders form the foundation of that bridge over which they pass in safety. So when I think of that illustration, I cannot help but apply it to this State of Iowa with its two millions of people, its prosperity everywhere, and its intelligence. Possibly no State in the Union for a period of years has met greater prosperity. I am inclined to believe that away back in the early history of Iowa you people, the pioneer law-makers of Iowa, represent the foundation of this noble State, and are the foundation which has enabled it to make such magnificent advancement.

I feel very much honored to receive this call, and shall be glad to see you at any time personally or collectively.

Judge Wright said:

We can all say to you that we feel perfectly secure as to the foundations.

If you will take care of the cars as they run along we will be all right. It is time for us to repair to the Senate Chamber. We thank you for your very complimentary reception.

The members of the Association then proceeded to the Senate Chamber, where they were received by the President, Lieutenant-Governor Dungan, who said:

MR. PRESIDENT OF THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS ASSOCIATION—It affords me pleasure on behalf of myself and the senators of the Twenty-fifth General Assembly to welcome you and your associates to this hall. We not only welcome you, but feel highly honored that you have accepted our invitation to be with us to-day. The young statesmen of to-day welcome the sages of the past. And it affords me double pleasure being a young man with the young men to-day and yet uniting myself with the present and past, having the great honor of being a member of your Association. We welcome the men who from the earliest times of the State in its territorial condition and through statehood of to-day were the great architects in building the State of Iowa. We feel greatly honored in thus doing. It is sometimes said you builded better than you knew. I know not how that may be; I know that young statesmen are ambitious. You were all young and I doubt not you were ambitious or you would not have survived so long. But I do know the State you were so instrumental in building, the great State of Iowa, is the most beautiful, most beloved, and greatest State in the galaxy of states in this Nation. We welcome you. Be at home. Take possession. I will give you the insignia of authority. We desire to hear from you and your associates such as you may desire to call upon to-day.

Judge Wright said:

I am the presiding officer now. I wish you to understand that you will have to observe the very strictest rules laid down by the former law-makers, and if any man departs from these rules, though he be the oldest senator on the floor, I will call him from his feet. I am not here to make a speech. I thank you for the very complimentary terms in which you have received us. I knew how it would be, I knew you could not say anything else to save your soul but just what you have said to us. I know another thing; that you could not say anything—talk five minutes without saying something complimentary to the State of Iowa. I have said a great many times that if I found a man in the State of Iowa who didn't live in the very best part of the State I would shoot him down on the spot. Go down to Van Buren county, where Senator Vale lives; down into Davis, where Col. Moore lives; away up into Clayton and Fayette counties, where Judge Noble and L. L. Ainsworth live; then come down toward Marshalltown, where Speaker Stone lives, and Polk county, where Hoyt Sherman and Isaac Brandt live, and every last fellow says he is in the best part of the State. Of course we have a good State, and all live in the very best part of it. That is all right; I have heard it six times already to-day. But it is not for me to make a speech; I have a perfect right and authority to call out a few young men here to respond in my place, and the first person I shall call is the youngest representative; not merely the youngest in years, but he has been here fewer years than anybody else, Professor T. S. Parvin.

Professor Parvin said:

MR. PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND GENTLEMEN—Judge Wright promised us that he would not take us by surprise. I am not surprised he called upon me, because he said he selected the best looking man to accompany him as an escort when he might pass into your midst, but I am surprised that he should have thought of such a thing. I am half inclined to make one of his old speeches, because then I would merit his approbation as well as yours, I know.

JUDGE WRIGHT—You could do no better.

PROF. PARVIN—I am glad to look into your faces, as I did yesterday morning. Of the members of this General Assembly, I noticed on yesterday there were some young men. Very few. It was the exception to the rule, while in the long ago it was the rule itself, because we had not been in Iowa long enough; Iowa was not old enough so we could grow old, and it is possible that some of your members might have some advantages in years, but these young men are not only the hope but the pride of the State. We are glad to meet them. I have noticed in looking over the list that some of the best looking members were single. I am not surprised that one of them should advocate the question discussed in your hearing yesterday. It was natural. And I am sure that the men who are single are not so by the grace of God. I remember the first session of the legislature of Iowa, only about fifty-six years ago, the good citizens of Burlington invited us to a grand reception. It was a grand affair, and when we gathered together there were only seventy-five good looking, young, marriageable men. Each one was looking about on the *qui vive* for some fair maiden. Lo, there stood in our midst but one solitary representative of the sex. Had she been some years younger I presume we might have had considerable doubt as to the selection. But as she was advanced in years I can only say, as one of the historians of the history of Iowa, that she remained in single blessedness during the subsequent history of Iowa. It is a pleasing thought to look at the building you occupy and think you are called to order by use of a gavel that is made from some of the old building. I hope the day may be far distant in the future, or it may never come, when any president of this Association shall be called upon to call the members to order by use of a gavel that shall be made of the ruins of this building. I feel complimented by the introduction made, and that I may stand before you the oldest representative present of that Association. There are but two others living who were connected with the government during that year, and both are too old and infirm to meet with us, so I have come to represent the three. I am glad to meet with you to-day. As there are others better qualified and perhaps more ambitious to address you than I, I will thank you for the opportunity I have had of meeting you and for renewing acquaintances of early youth, making new acquaintances, I trust, that will prove as true as the old friendships in years long gone by.

Judge Wright said:

Without introducing anything like politics it has occurred to me that in this body perhaps you are not troubled with many long speeches from Democrats, and I have concluded to give you a taste of another. I will therefore call out another Democrat to make things even. I call upon our

friend from Fayette county, L. L. Ainsworth, who was a member of the senate and also a member of congress.

Mr. Ainsworth said:

MR. PRESIDENT—I suppose the first point that I should make to appear natural here would be to raise a point of order or question of privilege, but I think I have that question of privilege. I dislike, however, in the presence of the senate, to make this a personal matter, but I remember at the dinner table you announced that each man who would be called upon to say anything here was to have notice at that time. I felt a little chagrined that my name was not mentioned as one of them, but now you have called upon me without any notice whatever. This question of privilege—I sat here in this senate and heard a question of privilege raised in 1860 by a senator, a friend of mine, in which he raised the question of privilege over an article published in the *State Register*. After reading from the *Register* a portion of the article he said, “Mr. President, I said that;” and reading on further he said, “Mr. President, I said that;” and reading on a little further he said, “Mr. President, I said that.” Lieutenant-Governor Rusch then said: “What is the question of privilege, Senator?” And he replied, “Mr. President, I said all they published.” I think that question was well taken.

Standing here in this Senate chamber and contrasting it with the Senate chamber which your presiding officer and I occupied in 1862—in looking about upon the faces here I find not a face of those who were with me, and looking about upon the dimensions and finish of the walls, I find nothing to remind me that this is the Senate chamber of the State of Iowa as compared with the old Senate chamber, but there is the same responsibility attached to you that attached to us, the responsibility of changing the law where it is apparent that such change is required, but yet, as you know—I will say, by the way, that I have no intention to lecture or instruct you—but I will say that the real duty which presses itself upon representatives and senators, is the duty of preventing laws that are bad. So far as my judgment goes the duty is more in preventing bad laws from being enacted than in procuring the enactment of good laws. I believe, gentlemen, my time has expired.

GOVERNOR DUNGAN—I will call on the senator from Hancock.

Senator Brower said:

MR. PRESIDENT, PIONEER LAW-MAKERS, SENATORS AND CITIZENS—It gives me much pleasure to stand here and witness the incoming of these representatives of another time. It gives me greater pleasure when I contemplate the period they represent, the history they have made and the future they have presented so invitingly before us. We have present in this senate chamber to-day an allegorical picture, you might say. The past and the present. And as we look into that past from the faces of the gentlemen who made that past so far as the material history of Iowa is concerned, I know I must voice the sentiment of those of my fellows who stand about me when I say that that past is an inspiration to us. It strengthens us and lifts up our courage when we contemplate the laborers before us. It is not for me here now to eulogize this State. It offers to every one who travels about its own eulogy. It is for me in the few words I may be permitted to speak to say a few words from the present to the past in the way of grateful

appreciation in the way of recognition of services which must have cost you more than our services will cost us. And I know, when I contemplate the magnificent surroundings by which we are to-day surrounded and look back to the past from which these gentlemen came, and looking at the State as it was then and looking at it as it is now it seems that a miracle of progress had certainly established itself in our midst, invited here by those who are confronting us now. We are proud of our State; we have reason to be proud of our State. We have greater reason to be proud of the men who laid the foundation upon which its prosperity is built, and I want to return thanks, so far as it is in me to express the thanks of the people of Iowa, to the men, the pioneer law-makers, who are our guests to-day.

Governor Dungan said:

I desire to call now upon a senator who by birth and education has had experience and comparison between one of the best governments in Europe and our own. I call upon Senator Groneweg, of Pottawattamie.

Senator Groneweg said:

MR. PRESIDENT—I am very thankful to you for the honorable mention you have made of the government which I had the pleasure to live under in former years. Permit me to say that when I came to Iowa thirty-three years ago I was a young man. It was not material to me where I went or where I stopped. I just happened to select a home on the "Big Muddy," the Missouri river. I stopped there then; I have been there ever since. I have cast my lot, as it were, with the people of this grand and glorious State of Iowa. I call myself now a citizen of Iowa, a citizen of this great and glorious union, the United States of America. When I witnessed the passing in of the pioneers, the pioneers who made the first laws of this State, I could not help but think and to compare our lives to a play. The stage is the world, the theater. One party occupies the stage at a certain time, then their work is done; they pass off and another set of men, a new set, takes their place and how radical is the change. The personnel of the legislature is almost entirely new from what it was four years ago; only one I remember is here to-day who was there four years ago. The others are all new men chosen by the elective franchise of their respective localities to represent them in this body, and so it will go with us here to-day. We are here to-day trying to represent our localities as best we may or as well as our abilities afford. We will be called upon to step aside to make room for new men who will take our places. It will not be long until this will take place. When we remember the hardships these gentlemen have passed through; when we remember the trials and troubles our State was in at the time alluded to by my friend Captain Ainsworth, who has chosen to make comparisons between the senate chamber of to-day and the senate chamber of 1860, let us make a comparison of the State of Iowa in 1861 and the State of Iowa in 1894. There is a great difference between the old chamber and our present one, but let me tell you, Mr. President, there is still a greater change in the State of Iowa. The State of Iowa is far more advanced and far greater in comparison than it was in 1860 and 1861. I thank you for your courtesy.

Governor Dungan said:

I will call upon Senator Cheshire, of Polk.

Senator Cheshire said:

MR. PRESIDENT, CHAIRMAN OF THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS, AND PIONEER LAW-MAKERS—I stand before you to-day impressed with the great State of Iowa you have piloted for the present generation, but I regret that what I may say here is entirely extemporaneous, without any previous preparation, because on an occasion like this when the men of the past who laid the foundations of this magnificent empire visit the capitol it behooves us young fellows who are attempting to fill the places you filled to put our best foot forward. But I welcome you to-day to this chamber and the city of Des Moines, and say to you, gentlemen, if you don't see what you want upon the shelves walk into Governor Dungan's room and demand the rest. I say to you, also, I am proud to be a native of this State. Why, gentlemen of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association, if I had not been born in Iowa I would have desired to have been born again on reaching this noble State. For, as Judge Wright has said, of all the commonwealths of this grand constellation of states; of all organized governments upon this habitable globe; of all kingdoms or empires in the past or present; of all republics that lived and died in the past or of all the republics living to-day, there is no state in any republic, in any kingdom, in any empire on this globe, that compares with the great State of Iowa. She sits between the Mississippi and Missouri rivers like a queen on her throne. There are more of the people of Iowa who own their homes in proportion to the population of the State than any equal extent of territory on God's footstool. Why, it has been said by the chairman of your organization that here is the most contented people; wealth is more equally distributed among the inhabitants of Iowa than in any other state of the Union. It has been said here repeatedly, in this chamber and in the other, that the order of intelligence of the people of the State averages higher than any other state, and when we come to consider among this constellation of states the other great states of the Union, and what they have done, and see that Iowa is ahead of each and all, that is the highest tribute we can pay to your early career as members of the Hawkeye State. The wise laws which you enacted forty years ago, many of them are still upon the statute books of the State, after forty years of trial, and after forty years' practice, and we legislators of to-day are unable to improve upon the legislation of thirty or forty years ago. It has been said by some governor or lieutenant-governor that you builded better than you knew. When you were law-makers, when you came to this young empire, if some one had told you that in 1894 Iowa would have been the tenth State in population in the Union, and the first state in all that makes a state in the United States; if you had been told that railways would have marked their courses across the State from east to west, from north to south, from northeast to southwest, and diagonally over the State in every direction; if you had been told the number of miles of railway she has to-day, you would have said it was impossible. The wildest dreamer of those days could not have pictured the greatness and grandness of the empire in which we live to-day. I believe that the present proud position of this State among the states of the nation—I believe that the pinnacle that Iowa has reached is

due more to the sure foundation you have laid than to any other reason or cause which has contributed to it. I remember that Governor Grimes, and the young chairman who sits here, chairman of your Association, and Governor Kirkwood—who is in the shadow and eve of life but whose mind is unclouded and whose memory still remains clear—I say I remember that those men forty years ago, when the Code of 1851 was written, and when the laws which related to married women especially, were re-written, and the spirit of the age and men who wrote that Code and those laws, changed the laws magnanimously in favor of the women of Iowa; and those laws have been greatly added to and increased, and let us hope that the time will come when there is no statute in the books but what gives equality not only to women of the State but to every citizen, white or black, male or female, of whatever condition.

Mr. President, I thank you for the kindness you have extended to me. I again bow in the presence of these gray haired law-makers and say, may the remaining portion of their lives slip peacefully down to the resting place to which we are all going.

Gov. Dungan said:

You have heard from the gentleman on the Muddy Missouri. We would like to hear now from one on the "babbling brook," the Mississippi, Senator Palmer.

Senator Palmer said:

MR. PRESIDENT, HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS' CORPS—As I witnessed the procession of these honorable pioneers coming into this chamber this afternoon, I felt that we boys ought to congratulate ourselves on the fact that we had such forerunners as these, and it brought to my mind that the reason for the growth of this grand State of Iowa must be—the reason must have been the fact that we had such men as these to go before us. When I go back a few years I am reminded that this commonwealth was only about fifteen years old when it was called upon for volunteers to defend the flag of the Union. It was these men as they sat in the councils of legislation who were prompt to legislate in the interests of the old flag as they would be now. And I say, Mr. President, that we to-day ought to congratulate ourselves on the fact that we had such pioneers as these to give us such laws as brought this grand State to the position it now occupies, a position second in rank to no other State in the Union, and along with the other States of the Union forming a government second to no other government under the sun. And we need to congratulate ourselves on the fact that we have had such a line of legislators as these. I hope this present Association will show itself equal to the emergency and not drop out a single link in this grand chain but that the history of our State may be linked together in golden links on down until time shall be no more.

Governor Dungan, said:

It is evident that the mistake I made is a very happy one. I intended to call on Senator Harper, and made a mistake, and now I call upon him.

Senator Harper said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. CHAIRMAN OF THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS' ASSOCIATION, AND SENATORS—I have been to-day what we called in school a bad boy, and I have been saying words here to-day that I find to be unpopular, and when the President of the Senate began to talk about the babbling brook that babbles down my way, my heart came up into my mouth, and I says that is me. But when he called on Senator Palmer out in Washington county, I felt very much relieved, but it got me after all. I thought I had shriveled up, and I have shriveled up in my own estimation and the estimation of others ever since about twelve o'clock. [Laughter.] Gentlemen, I belong to that class of people that are called Democrats, and I come from the "very best part of Iowa;" I come from the "Flint Hills," down there where the young lady is that our friend, Judge Parvin, talked about. I am sorry to say that the Judge was not successful in that courtship, for if he had been, I would have been related to one of the old pioneers. But I want to tell the Judge here now, to-day, privately, and I hope it will not go any further, that our girls down there are very conservative. I found that difficulty myself; and I presume that the Judge will agree with me in that statement. Now, in addition to being shriveled up to-day, and I am still on the shrivel, I will say that I have not been great a great while, but only great about four or five weeks ago, and so I reasonably expected, taking all these things together, to escape the eagle eye of our most splendid Governor. But it is a proud honor, indeed, to be selected out of this body of splendid men—such as we are—us boys—and asked to talk to those gray heads I see on the other side. It is an honor that I had no expectation of participating in. I expected to sit here quietly and listen to the words of wisdom falling from those old wise heads. Gentlemen, in reaching across the chasm that divides you and me to-day, I want to say that while Iowa is not my birthplace, while I was born away back across a few of the rivers where—well, it is so far I won't say much about it—it is where McKinley came from. [Applause.]

GOVERNOR DUNGAN—Where McKinley is.

SENATOR HARPER—McKinley was there. He seems to be still there. I was born there, and I presume that they, foreseeing at an early age that I was liable to become a Democrat, cast me off. I came to Illinois, and from there I came to Iowa twelve years ago, and I want to tell you just now that I do not know any other State in the Union. (Applause.) I am proud of Iowa, proud to-day coming from the first city that welcomes you as legislators, I am proud to stand side by side by my brother Senator who welcomes you to this city, and who represents the city in the Senate. I am proud, sirs, to say to you that I want to welcome you here to-day in behalf of Burlington, Iowa, where you first met and laid the foundation for the wise, proud and just laws that have stood the test for so many years. But I have the fault of talking too long. After having said that, and thanking you for your kind attention, I will close. (Applause.)

GOVERNOR DUNGAN said:

I will call for one more short address from Senator Harmon.

Senator Harmon, of Buchanan county said:

MR. PRESIDENT, CHAIRMAN OF THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS, AND SENATORS—When the honor of extending the invitation of this body to visit our legislative halls was accorded to me, I did not expect to be called upon for any remarks upon this occasion, so I delivered my address to them in their own rooms by assuring them of the cordial welcome to these halls. I am not in the habit of making speeches here, and I have one of the best reasons for this habit. I was quite young when elected to this body. My predecessor, one of the well-known men of the State, who is before us to-day as one of our visitors, came to me soon after my election, and addressed me something like this: "Young man, would you take some advice from one who has been through the legislative mills?" I said, "Yes." "Well," he says, "vote just as you please, and don't make any foolish speeches." I tried to follow that advice, and would not speak here to-day except to add my mite to the lavish tributes which have been offered by my brother Senators. Something has been said to-day about compliments. Mr. President, when we look at this State of which we are all so proud, of which it has been said we boast constantly in season and out of season, and point to her great institutions which are the pride of the citizens of this State, and turn to our venerable visitors and say to them, this is all your work, we have bestowed the greatest compliment that is now in our power. I am glad to day that I am able to number among my personal friends many of our distinguished visitors. I trust we who are members of this present General Assembly shall live to be pioneer law-makers. Those who shall succeed us in these legislative halls will be as glad to meet and greet us as we are glad to-day to meet and greet those who laid the foundation of this great State, and made it possible and profitable and pleasant for us to be here. I assured these gentlemen of a cordial welcome. I believe they will say that my promise has been fulfilled. I thank you for your kind attention.

Governor Dungan said:

I had in my mind calling upon another gentleman who is a bachelor, but his speeches are so good they will keep. If you do not desire to stay longer we will not insist upon it.

Chairman Wright said:

We would be glad to remain here until to-morrow morning if we could. I wish to say to you that Governors Scott and Campbell compose a committee from our body to extend an invitation to you from us. I wish they may be recognized at this time for that purpose.

Col. Scott said:

Mr. President—The invitation with which I am charged from the Pioneer Law-Makers Association is that the Senate will do us the honor to join with us in our deliberations to-morrow afternoon, and I extend this invitation on behalf of our Association and on behalf of the President, where we will be, I trust, at least as willing if not as able to extend our hospitality to all who may call, in the same generous, cheerful spirit you have extended toward us this afternoon. And while I have your attention I want to say that I am most profoundly impressed by the hope that was expressed by the last senator upon the floor that he might some day be a pioneer law-maker

himself. It is a worthy ambition. Mr. President, perhaps he and perhaps others of the younger members of the Senate scarcely realize the position which we now, not in our declining years, but in our growing years occupy; for a man with a clear conscience knows nothing, so long as he lives, but to look towards a clear sky and growth. I trust the senator and his co-senators may live, each and all of them, to be pioneer law-makers, and receive the crown of triumph which is extended to us to-day.

The President said:

I congratulate him upon his prospects of realizing his wishes. I remember a long time ago when I was a small boy passing through a certain—I believe they called it God's acre, upon which certain texts were inscribed upon the mile-stones, one of which was, "As you are now, so once was I; as I am now so you shall be. Prepare, prepare to follow me." I want to say for the encouragement of senators who are here, that you will become pioneer law-makers. You will go through the storms that are below the clouds, reaching the proud elements which we occupy, looking down where we can see from clear empyrean heights, where we once lived, upon the trouble and toil—looking down upon these small emulations which seem almost quarrels, that are on the earth below—and it is a grand place to be—it is a grand place to be where one can, in these serene days, occupy the position by the side of the companion of his early youth, and his children and the grandchildren shall stand to one side and give him the warmest place by the fire on the coldest day, and it shall all be done in that cheerful, respectful way in which they say, "We must do this for grandpa."

My young friends, you will all get there in time if you live, and I know you all intend to live while you can see anybody living, and I would advise you to do it. About these quarrels I spoke of in the earth below that we look down upon from such a distance from our haven of peace, I know something about what they are. They do not come from any unworthy ambition, but they come from the spirit in man to do his duty as his duty presents itself to him. I can illustrate this in no other or better way than in a story of the old days of Daniel Boone and the other early settlers of Kentucky, of the spirit in which a man who was to go to one of his neighbors several miles through the woods for some purpose. He says: "I will go to my house and get my rifle." "Well, I would not bother about going to your house for your rifle. You are not going to die until your time comes." "No, I am not going to die until my time comes. But suppose I should see an Indian and his time had come and I had no gun." Now I could conceive of you men having such a feeling as that as you go through the world—no animosity at all towards anybody with whom you come in contact, but simply anxious that the will of the Lord be done.

Now as we are about to adjourn one word more. A great many years ago I delivered an address, telling about the excellences, virtues and intelligence and the influence of the pioneer lawyers of the State upon its progress. After I had finished an old lawyer came to me and said: "I didn't know we were such a good set of fellows as you make us out after all. I don't know after all whether we are as good as you make us out to be, but I believe every word you say!" Mr. President, it is said that a legend is a historical narrative destroyed by traditions. Iowa is not old enough to

have any traditions yet, it is all history. It is history that Iowa believed thirty years ago and more that the constitution of the United States was a charter of life and not of death. It is history that the people of this nation believed in the one nation, the United States all together, and Iowa believed that just as sincerely as any other State of the union. It is history that when it was attempted to take down the flag and destroy the unity of this nation that attempt, by the efforts — by the heroism of Iowa men and the heroism of men all over the nation, was rammed down the throats of the rebels and all shot to pieces at Pittsburg and Appomattox court house. It is history that during all the life of Iowa there has never been a charge against any official, legislator or otherwise, of bribery or any acceptance of or attempt to bribe men in the discharge of their duties as officials of the State. It is history that this building in which we now stand was built under the supervision of three as honest and true and faithful and industrious men as the State ever had. There is no fraud from turret to foundation stone. There may be a time when we shall have traditions which will destroy history, but we have not got them yet. We may go back a little and say, according to tradition, such men as Ainsworth, Noble, Henderson, Miller and Dungan at one time represented the State in the general assembly of the State of Iowa. That tradition you can hardly believe. But we have the history and that is enough.

Mr. President, let me hope in parting, as an humble citizen of the State, that the time may never come when we will be ashamed of any part of the history of our State. And if we shall be true to the past, to the foundation, we need not be afraid of the future. Then its record shall be all that we desire, and we can continue to praise each other and to praise Iowa, for she deserves it.

Here the Pioneer Law-Makers proceeded to the House of Representatives.

Speaker Stone in receiving them said:

MR. PRESIDENT OF THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS AND PIONEER LAW-MAKERS—I take great pleasure in extending to you a cordial welcome on behalf of the members of the Twenty-Fifth General Assembly, and I assure you it is a great pleasure to the members of this body to stop in the onerous duties of legislation and receive as guests the honorable body it now has with us.

Judge Wright on behalf of the Association said:

MR. SPEAKER—In behalf of the gentlemen over whom I have the honor to preside, and it is a great honor, I accept the compliment extended to us, and express great pleasure that we are able, so many of us, to be here this afternoon. Our meetings would scarcely possess a tithe of the pleasure they do if it were not for the fact that we can meet at a time when the General Assembly is in session and meet you here in this hall and have you meet with us in ours. We have extended to you, as you are aware, an invitation to meet us to-morrow, and we hope we shall have the pleasure of seeing you. And I want to say, as I said two years ago, we don't want you to come by card; we want you to come in person; we are old-fashioned and do not

believe in calls by cards. Therefore we shall expect you all to-morrow afternoon at the time indicated.

It is no part of my place or duty to make a speech on such occasions as this, for I have persons at my command who are always ready to make speeches on these occasions, and, therefore, I am relieved of such duty. I shall call upon two or three persons now, but if any man shall say anything about what a great State Iowa is, how it has prospered, what success it has had, or how big and great it is as compared with any other state in the Union, I shall regard him as out of order and shoot him on the spot. You must talk about something else. The first gentleman I shall call upon will be Senator McNutt, formerly of Muscatine.

Mr. McNutt said:

MR. PRESIDENT—It is twenty years since I made a speech, and now to be called upon in this way! If I fail, of course you can only expect me to fail. Thirty years ago the county of Muscatine sent me to represent it in part in the Tenth General Assembly. We met in the old building across the way, and how different were our surroundings then from what you have now. And were it not that our president has forbidden by strict injunction any allusion to the progress and grandeur of this young State of ours I would be disposed to make somewhat of a comparison, but sir, these two buildings as they stand here to-day are the comparison of the condition of things existing then and now. Notwithstanding the injunction of our president, sir, I do feel disposed to say that I glory in the State of Iowa; that I glory in the progress she has made; that I glory in the intelligence and virtue of her citizens, and I will say, sir, that sometimes—sometimes when I think of these boys, these boys which have been sent to make laws for the State, I am sometimes a little uneasy as to what they may do; as to what record they may make. We old fellows are proud of the record that we made. We glory in it. We think that in those dark days of our country our fellow citizens chose the best men of the State to represent them, and I hope, sir, that they have done the same thing in electing the persons that now occupy these halls. There is one thing, sir, that we old men do think of; we know, sir, that it is not wealth; that it is not magnificent buildings; that it is not castles or costly dwellings that make a state or make a nation, but it is the men and the women—virtuous and intelligent men and women that make a State, and so long as the State of Iowa consists of that kind of population, there is no danger to her institutions—no danger impending over this country. Let us remember, sir, that it is the intelligence and virtue of the citizens that is the strength and the glory of this entire land. Now, when I used to make speeches in the hall over the way, and I am free to confess, sir, that I can't do justice to myself without talking about an hour as a preface, and yet I was allowed but five minutes to say what I need to take an hour for. I know that this Twenty-fifth General Assembly will act wisely and prudently in the enactment of laws. I learned in my ten years of experience here that it was often safe to vote no, to say no; and I have come to the conclusion that the less laws enacted by the legislature the better for the people; just the least you can do—just the least changes you can make because the time, conditions and circumstances change, and the laws must be changed to suit these conditions and circumstances. I do think that in the present day there

are some laws that should be modified in order to meet certain conditions especially in certain localities of the State. Pardon me, Mr. President for talking too long. I thank you for the invitation and the opportunity to speak, and will now give way to some one else.

Judge Wright said:

I will next call upon Judge Reed.

Judge Reed spoke as follows:

MR. SPEAKER AND MR. CHAIRMAN — I have heard a great deal about gray hairs and we have been addressed by the presiding officer of this House as venerable men and that is perhaps proper. I want to say in the outset that if any person present believes that we belong exclusively to the past or that we live in the past I wish him to disabuse his mind of that. The men who constitute this Association many of them are venerable men; many of them have lived long and their services date back to the early history of the State and while we are proud that they have taken some humble part in the formation of that glorious record they call the history of the State of Iowa, still they may well be proud also that while in some things they are proud of the history of the State they belong to the present; they have the same interest in the present events that you have; they are animated with the same hopes. Gentlemen of the Assembly, the subject of the greatness and glory of Iowa has been mentioned frequently to-day until it has become a forbidden subject, forbidden by our chairman. Assuming that all that has been said of Iowa is true and taking it for granted, we may reasonably inquire what is the reason and cause for this grandeur and greatness. It is the wise legislation that these men have enacted. That is one cause, but over and beyond all that there is another cause. These men were but the representatives of the people who sent them to the General Assembly to formulate these laws and when these laws were formulated they were but the expression of the will of the people who sent them here. So it does not depend entirely upon a few, but it is to be attributed to the character and the virtue and the intelligence of the people of Iowa. Now it has happened for the last five or six years I have been thrown very much in contact with people of other states, and I have been frequently inquired of what manner of people have you there. My answer has always been that we have all the material resources for the best State in the Union; that there was nowhere else upon the planet another fifty-five million of acres capable of producing so much for the support of the people. And that our people were on a common level; that we had no extremes of either wealth or poverty. We had no great aggregations of capital; we had but few millionaires, while the annual products went up to hundreds of millions of dollars, it was distributed among all the people, and as a consequence the people were intelligent, virtuous, contented and happy. Go back into the history of the Nation in those troublesome times, and every man of my age has had some experience in connection with it, and look at the character of the men that compose the senators of the United States from Iowa. They compare with the representatives of any State in the Union. Those senators during the war, and subsequent to the war, exercised an influence equal to that of the representatives of any State in the Union. It

was so in the lower house of congress. But it is not to that alone that our influence has extended. The young men, the descendants of early settlers of Iowa, have gone out and have occupied this whole country west of us, and it has been my pride to point to the fact that the members of that association are everywhere standing at the head of the bar. If I ask any lawyer in Iowa to name the man who stood nearest the head of the American bar, if he was an intelligent man, if he is acquainted with the facts, his mind would naturally go to that man at the head of the New York bar, the head of the American bar, the law student in Iowa, the practitioner in Iowa, the judge in the Federal court of Iowa, that grand man, John F. Dillon. And it is true with almost every other state. My duties often call me to the west, and I find Iowa men prominent in Denver as well as cities on the Sound. The other day I was in San Francisco and there met a man who was at one time eminent in Iowa Legislature as speaker of this house, occupying the same position there that he occupied here. I will tell you here a little matter of reminiscence. The other day the son of an Iowa lawyer and an Iowa judge came before the court of which I had the honor to be a member and argued the case that was being submitted. My associates coming from four other States, listened to that argument. It was wonderful in its clearness, conciseness and quiet tone, everything about the man indicating that he was thoroughly sincere and thoroughly honest. My associates on my right, when he had finished, said that is the finest argument we have had in this court, and I said that was an Iowa man. We have sent them into every State west of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, men of that class, and we have got them by the hundreds in every county. This influence has not only gone to the west, but has gone to the east. I will tell you another incident. It happened at one of the great political conventions of 1888 in the city of Chicago. As is the custom of delegations, the delegates called at the headquarters of one of the delegations of one of the eastern cities—the State of Indiana. Six or seven men engaged in the work of receiving addressed them, and I was assured by one of the men from this State that every man among them when he came to make his address assured the Iowa people that he had one day the honor of being a citizen of Iowa. These were men of pre-eminence in the politics of their states. So this influence, I say, has not been local only. It has gone abroad, it has permeated the nation. And it has been wise, not only in the character of legislation but in the character of the people who demand that legislation at the hands of those representatives. Mr. Speaker and Mr. Chairman, I could not without infringing upon the time of others speak longer. I am gratified that I have the privilege of belonging to the Association of the Pioneer Law-Makers. I am greatly gratified at the reception that I as an individual and my associates have received at the hands of this body. (Applause.)

Speaker Stone said:

I have the honor of presenting to you Representative Sawyer, of Sioux City, who will respond on the part of the House.

Mr. Sawyer said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND MR. SPEAKER—I have imagined as I sat here, that I saw a look of embarrassment upon the President's face as he listened to

the encomiums of the gentlemen on the State of Iowa, notwithstanding his injunction that they should refrain from such laudations on this grand and glorious State, but nevertheless, feeling as we do, we cannot do less or say less than that we have transgressed the rules laid down. As I look into the faces of these men, most of whom are venerable with age, my thoughts go back to the early history of the State, and I can imagine some of you held seats in the Territorial legislative halls, at the time when the immortal Whittier wrote the words familiar to all:

“Looking westward, I hear the trampling pioneers of nations soon to be,
The first low wash of waves where soon shall roll a human sea.”

To-day the human sea does roll over the magnificent prairies of Iowa, and where there were thousands, or a few hundred thousands, there are to-day more than two millions of happy, prosperous people. I think, perhaps, the present legislature is remarkable in the membership, in that it links the present with the past; for while we have those who have never sat in the legislative halls before, yet we have our venerable friend from Lee, who more than half a century ago, before this State had its birth, sat in the halls of legislation of the Territory. As I have listened to the words that have fallen from the lips of these men, I have also felt that they, although advanced in years, still have work to do, and their wisdom may serve to guide and direct us in the affairs of the present time. It is well for us to seek wisdom from those who are older and wiser in experience than we. I also say that the work which you, my venerable friends, and the work which we do to-day cannot be judged by the present. History writes our records with impartial hands, and truly estimates the worth of our every endeavor. And now, may I not say to each and every one of these whose heads are silvered over with age, his opportunities and influence are no less to-day than in youth. And—

“As evening twilight fades away,
The sky is full with stars invisible by day.”

Speaker Stone said:

I now have the pleasure of introducing the youngest member of our House, W. O. Weaver, of Louisa county.

Mr. Weaver said:

MR. SPEAKER, AND PIONEER LAW-MAKERS OF THE STATE OF IOWA—I deem it no disparaging title to be the youngest member of the Twenty-fifth General Assembly, nor do I consider it a small honor to be called upon to respond on an occasion like this. For it is indeed your work that has brought us here, not that we are here to overturn the work which you have done, but merely to broaden and widen the foundation you so artfully constructed. Many of the questions which you have dealt with have given place to problems corresponding with the advancement and development of the State. Many of you whom I see here this afternoon dealt with the small Territory along the eastern part of the State with a modified government thereof, and we are here as members of the Twenty-fifth General Assembly to enact laws to cover ninety-nine well-governed counties. You dealt, many of you, with turnpikes and the natural courses of streams. We are here to provide government for railroads in almost every civil township within the

borders of the State. Where once the surveyor chained the western prairies we to-day enact municipal laws for that region. And when I look into your faces this afternoon I feel like repeating the words of the sage, that "Surely the sower has seen his grain garnered." Our institutions of the State of Iowa are but the mere reflection of the lives and character of those men who came here and moulded our early laws and institutions. It is but the mere outgrowth of those pioneers whose spirit was for the upbuilding of a broad commonwealth and our State has advanced in correspondence with them. From the time of the first territorial legislature in Burlington in 1838, and in the old stone structure in Iowa City until here to-day in the center of so vast a population we are sheltered with this magnificent structure, has the progress of our institutions kept pace with the intelligence of our people. Who among us this afternoon can estimate the influence of these characters upon the early institutions of the State. Mr. Speaker, I am reminded that you have among you to-day one from whose life I could write the history of many of our several institutions. Many years ago a son desirous to take up the study of law appealed to his father, who not only undertook the instruction of his own son, but also the sons of several of his ambitious neighbors, and this system of instruction grew, and the number of students grew and more teachers were added until to-day we have as the product of this school the law department of the State University, which is second to none, I may say, to any state institutions of the nation. This same individual has interpreted our statutes and given us the basis for our law, which placed him beside the most eminent jurist of our nation. It is useless for me to refer to that, your honor, at present, but while I gaze into the faces here of those who yet linger among us, I am reminded of another character who is not present to-day, but whose influence we must all feel; a man who from the earliest inception of the institutions of this State has given his entire time to the upbuilding of the broad commonwealth; a man who was, I might say, the founder of our banking system—of our currency; a man who controlled the affairs of this State in the darkest hour of its existence, at a time when neighbors were brought face to face in the struggles that followed. When the homes of the busy villagers were hushed, the work-shop closed—it was at such a time that he was called upon to protect an endangered nation, with not a dollar in the treasury. It was during such hours as these that the governors of the northern states were debating as to the best policy to adopt in the interest of the union, and in consequence they assembled at Washington to consult President Lincoln in person. Mr. Lincoln consulted each one of them with a view to ascertaining their wishes, and as he approached the last one of those governors he extended his hand with the remark, "Well, Governor, what can I do for your State?" and the man whom he addressed arose from his chair, and with a voice that never was known to falter in time of need, replied: "I came here not to find out what you could do for my State, but I came here to find out what my State could do for you." That man was Samuel J. Kirkwood. And I am proud to say here this afternoon that it may be said to the great credit of the State of Iowa that more than one-third of the members on this floor breathe the same loyalty as did our war governor. I am speaking here this afternoon to recall to your minds Grimes, Francis Springer, Miller and many others who are sacred to

the memory of this State. Well, when we look back and behold the grand structure you have left it reminds us of a continuous chain of mountains with some of its peaks towering upwards, while others below are on a direct line, yet requiring all to form a symmetrical development. So it is with the early settlers and Pioneer Law-makers of Iowa. Many of you men were chosen as leaders; men were chosen who became judges and guides of our law and the safeguards of our liberties. And it required that other men, perhaps less prominent, should take their places and fill up the rank and file. But it required the planning of all for the purpose of developing a systematic law as this State now shows. To-day, as we are assembled here, all those men should be remembered, all should be honored, for it is to them and each of them that we owe our present prosperity and happiness.

Judge Wright said:

Before I introduce another gentleman, if you will give us time to hear from one more, I am requested by one who was a member of the Territorial legislature of Iowa, and who is perhaps the oldest living legislator in the State, to inquire of those who are present how many, if any, of the entire number representing the Territory in territorial days are living, and how many are here now?

Prof. Parvin said:

I presume I would come under that head

Hon. Daniel F. Miller said:

I wish to know if there is anybody besides myself who was a member of the Territorial legislature? I was a member of the legislature six years before Iowa became a state.

Mr. Hartsock said:

I was an officer of the Senate in the last session of the legislature of the Territory.

Hon. Daniel F. Miller said:

I take it that my white head is the only surviving member of the legislature of the territorial days of Iowa.

Judge Wright said:

If you will listen for a few moments longer I will take pleasure in calling out a distinguished gentleman from northeastern Iowa, Judge Noble from Clayton county, to say a few words.

Judge Noble said:

MR. SPEAKER—It is rather unfair in my venerable friend to be responsible for calling me out at this stage, but, however, as he has done so, I will address a very few words to this body. It is now forty years, Mr. Speaker, or will be on the first Monday of December next, since I had the honor of being chosen to the position now occupied by yourself. When I consider those who composed the Fifth General Assembly, which met on the first Monday of December, 1854—when I think of the one hundred and fifty men

who composed that General Assembly and with whom I was acquainted, I confess to a feeling of sadness when I come to consider the subject. I thought I was about the average age of the men of the Fifth General Assembly of the House of Representatives. Possibly I was mistaken, but I thought I was about the average age of the members of the House at that time, and not far from the average age of the members of the Senate. In fact, when I think of Coolbaugh, and of Browning and Tracy, of that walking encyclopedia, Fisher, of Clayton county, Shield, of Hamilton, and Dr. Dewey, of Fremont, and a number of others whom then I supposed were about my age, who long since have gone, and when I consider that of all that vast number of men, one hundred and fifty, not more than ten or fifteen can I locate as now living, I confess to a feeling of sadness. I will say that in the Fifth General Assembly, as our honored President has forbidden any talk in honor of Iowa, I will venture to talk a little of the honor conferred by that Legislature upon my beloved county of Clayton—an honor that probably never will be again bestowed upon any county in Iowa. Both the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House were chosen from the county of Clayton, and you cannot wonder that I have a very warm feeling for the portion of Iowa called Clayton county. I am not going outside of Clayton county to speak of Iowa other than to say that it has always suited me well enough, and suits me to-day.

Two years ago I had occasion, in that Senate chamber, I think, to address the members of the Senate for a few moments upon a subject, that in my mind, was one of vast importance to Iowa, and although I thought at the time that it might be regarded as not in my particular sphere to speak on a subject of that character, yet I made an appeal to the members of the legislature to be liberal in providing for the comfort of the people of Iowa, and for the education of Iowa, in a liberal appropriation for the World's Fair. And I thank every member of both houses of the legislature that they did make that happy provision. I thank them, too, that the Governor of our State selected a commission to manage the affairs of Iowa in that great educating arena of the world that has conferred an honor upon the State such as has not been conferred upon any other so far as my knowledge goes, and that is that they have provided for the comfort and convenience of the people of Iowa and have not exceeded the appropriation which the legislature gave to their disposal. I apprehend that Iowa is the only State that has the honor of spending less money for that great object and purpose than was appropriated. I will say I was at that Fair a great many times. I believe more people visited the Iowa State Building than any state building upon the ground. I believe they were provided for there most comfortably. I believe that the people of Iowa owe a debt of gratitude to the commissioners, especially to General Ed Wright, who was at home with everybody, and who made everybody comfortable who visited the Iowa State Building. Each seemed to vie with the other in providing for the information and comfort of her people. I am proud of Iowa on account of her exhibit at the World's Fair. While there was nothing about it that was very gorgeous, nothing about it that was very expensive, it presented the best educational lesson upon the leading staples of Iowa that was ever produced in this country or probably ever will be again, and all things considered we have reason to be proud of the action of the last general

assembly of Iowa, and I hope we will be of the general assembly that is now in session. However, we have not reached that period in history that we want to talk about that. We can only hope for the best that we may have those results in the future.

Judge Wright then said:

Now, just before we are to retire, one word: Some one has said that if all the good and happy things, and the many eulogies pronounced upon a man after he is dead were pronounced or said of him before he died, he would be unwilling to leave the earth and go to heaven even. Hearing all of the good things of Iowa to-day, notwithstanding the violation of all the rules I have laid down in this hall, and in the other, I have thought that Iowa, like the Indianian, is so proud of its history and record that she does not propose to die and Iowa never shall die.

Wednesday evening at 7 P. M. the Association met at the Y. M. C. A. building and was called to order by the president who said:

The first thing in order is a selection by the Banjo Club.

The club appeared and rendered the selection.

The next business in order will be an address from Senator McNutt. The Senator will announce his subject and you will know what it is before he gets through anyhow.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF IOWA.

In the history of States and of Nations there are epochs or periods that are marked and noted. These noted periods stand out prominent in the story of the passing centuries. In the history of the United States of America the epoch known as the "Great Rebellion," or the time in which the slaveholders attempted to dis sever the Union and to establish what they called the "Confederate States of America," constituting a new nation, was one of the most remarkable events of history. Not only remarkable in the history of the great republic of America, but it is one of the most remarkable events in the history of human progress.

That epoch brought men to the front fitted for the time in which they lived. Men, too, who but for the new and strange circumstances arising and taking place would have never been heard of. Abraham Lincoln would have passed his years unknown as a Springfield lawyer, and Grant would have continued to sell leather in Galena unknown to fame.

The Tenth General Assembly of Iowa met in the darkest days of our republic's history. The great war of the rebellion was then raging fiercely, and the result was yet undetermined and in doubt. A number of the states, covering more than one-half the territory of the Union, and having some eight millions of inhabitants, had organized themselves into a new nation, which had a president, a congress, and an army numbering hundreds of thousands of soldiers, commanded by skillful generals, and had also on the high seas a navy destroying the commerce of the loyal states—the states which remained true to the old constitution and the laws. And what was

dangerous and fearful then, and regretful to mention now, there were many citizens in these loyal states who sympathized with the Southern rebels, and who opposed every measure adopted by the administration of Abraham Lincoln, in the effort to suppress the slave-holder's rebellion, enforce the laws, and restore the flag of our Union to its rightful place over all our territory.

Those in favor of sustaining the administration and putting down armed rebellion, included members of all former political parties, Abolitionists, Republicans, Whigs and Democrats, and called themselves the Union party. Those who opposed the measures of the administration, and opposed the war, called themselves the Democratic party; but they were called by the Unionists, by way of nickname, the "Copperhead party."

A generation has passed away since this dark and terrible period in our country's history. But it was a terrible period indeed, and those of us who passed through it remember well the fearful and doubtful condition of public affairs, and of social and civil life in the free states, still loyal to the administration of Abraham Lincoln.

Political and partisan feelings, hates and prejudices, were intense and bitter. Neighbors and neighborhoods were often divided and hostile. Even members of the same family were sometimes divided on the questions at issue, and became enemies to each other. The majority of the citizens of Iowa were Unionists, and in this condition of our country the members of the Tenth General Assembly were elected in the fall of 1863, except eleven senators who held over. Thus it was that in the darkest days of our nation's history the members of the Tenth General Assembly were chosen from among our citizens, and met in the old capitol building in Des Moines on the 11th day of January, 1864. The Senate numbered forty-six members, only four of whom were Democrats, and forty-two were Unionists. One of the Democrats was from Lee county, one from Allamakee county and two from Dubuque county. The House of Representatives numbered ninety-two members, only six of whom were Democrats, and eighty-six of them were Unionists, or as the Democrats called them "Black Republicans." One of the Democrats was from Allamakee county, one from Davis county and four from Dubuque county.

This was my first term as a member of the House of Representatives, and many a time during all the thirty years since then, my mind has wandered back to the days of that session, and I recall to memory that General Assembly as a body of earnest, honest men. No truer or better men ever met as a legislative body, in this or any other State. I can say from my personal knowledge of them, that there was neither a drunkard nor a gambler, nor an immoral man, a member of either house. It appears to a looker-on that in those dark days of our country, the people of Iowa, by a common impulse, chose to serve them the very best men they could find in the several senatorial and representative districts; and such indeed they were.

The House was permanently organized and elected my colleague, Jacob Butler, Speaker. He was an earnest, impulsive and ready talker. He was well known over the State, and had some political aspirations, especially toward a seat in Congress. Jacob Rich, then of Buchanan county, was elected Chief Clerk: George P. Abel of Polk county, and S. A. Clark of Henry county, were elected first and second assistant clerks, respectively;

A. D. Aldrich of Lee county, engrossing clerk; C. S. Wilson of Madison county, enrolling clerk, and funny old Zimri Streeter of Black Hawk county, sergeant-at-arms.

Samuel J. Kirkwood was the retiring governor, John R. Needham the retiring lieutenant-governor and president of the senate. Wm. M. Stone the incoming governor, Enoch W. Eastman the incoming lieutenant-governor and president of the senate, and W. F. Davis, of Muscatine, was elected secretary of the senate.

On the 12th of January, Governor Kirkwood sent in his message in which he treated fully the matters of State finances, school and university lands, the half-million acre grant, Des Moines river land grant, swamp land grant, agricultural college grant, supreme court, state university, state historical society, charitable institutions, penitentiary, organizing and arming volunteer companies, and national affairs. Under the latter head the governor said: "I became satisfied during the early part of last summer, that designing men, in this as in other loyal states, were making preparation for an armed resistance to the authority of the general government. The law of congress providing for a draft, to fill the ranks of the Union Army, contained a provision that was eagerly seized upon to array the poorer of our people against the government, upon the specious pretense that the object of the law was to discriminate between the rich and the poor, to the injury of the poor. The action of the government in freeing and using the slaves in the rebel states for the suppression of the rebellion was represented as a scheme by the government to overrun the free states with freed slaves, to the prejudice and injury of the poor white men. The government had, in some instances, arrested and imprisoned, or sent beyond our lines, persons whose restraint the public interest required, and this was interpreted to mean an intention on the part of the government to break down the defenses of civil liberty, and to establish a despotism. The entire policy of the government, as interpreted by these men, was that the war was waged, not for the preservation of the union, but for the abolition of slavery; that the object of the government in seeking to abolish slavery was to bring the freed slaves north and force their labor into competition with that of the poor white men. That by the draft the government sought only to force the poor white men of the country into the army, to effect these objects so prejudicial to their interests, and that while these objects were being effected, the government intended to overthrow our free institutions, and establish in their stead a despotism.

In these words Governor Kirkwood described the conduct and the teachings of the leaders of the opposition party of that day, which called itself "Democratic." In the next paragraph he says: "It is passing strange that intelligent men could be found so wicked as to make these statements, and that other men could be found so ignorant and so foolish as to believe them. But it was so. These statements were made through the press, and from the stump, in the most violent and exciting language, apparently with all the earnestness of conviction, and thousands of honest but deluded men believed them, and in consequence entertained feelings of deep hostility to the government. Secret societies were organized in many, if not all of the loyal states, the members of which were secretly armed for the avowed purpose of protecting themselves against what were called

arbitrary arrests, but, as I am satisfied, with the intent on the part of the leaders to bring their members into armed collision with the general government in case any attempt should be made to enforce the draft. The natural result of these teachings and of this action was seen in the bloody riot that occurred in the chief city of the Union (New York), and in similar smaller outbreaks in other places."

The governor then went on to tell of the murder of a Mr. Talley, at South English, and the rebel mob spirit that was aroused there, and the volunteer companies that from necessity were raised to protect our citizens from the raids of rebel guerillas from Missouri and northwestern frontier Indians. He dwelt at length on our duty to the soldiers in the field who were imperilling their lives in the Union cause, and our duty to their destitute families at home.

This farewell message of Gov. Kirkwood to the Tenth General Assembly forms a prominent and truthful page in the history of our State and nation; and I refer you to it for further details.

On the 18th of January the Speaker announced the standing committees of the House. The principal ones were the Ways and Means, and the Judiciary. On Ways and Means were Gilchrist, of Clayton; Merriam, of Lee; Bereman, of Henry; Weare, of Linn; Runyan, of Benton; Oliver, of Monona; Littler, of Washington; McNutt, of Muscatine; and Richards, of Dubuque. The Judiciary consisted of Bereman, of Henry; Moir, of Hardin; Stiles, of Wapello; Russell, of Washington; Hale, of Mills; Burke, of Bremer; Holdridge, of Buchanan; Wolf, of Cedar; Joy, of Woodbury; Elliot, of Taylor; and McCormick, of Marion. Most of the members of these two committees have passed to the "great beyond." Thirty years have thinned their numbers.

"Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north wind's breath.
And stars to set—but all—
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, oh Death."

Some of them attained prominent positions. Oliver became a judge and a member of Congress. Wolf also was sent to Congress and Hale was made governor of Wyoming territory.

In these days of honest economy the committees had no salaried clerks. Each committee chose one of its members for clerk, who served without pay. The honor was considered sufficient pay. I was chosen clerk of the ways and means and kept the record of our proceedings in a little blank book, and I had a paper box in which I carried around the bills and resolutions referred to us.

At this date a very considerable number of fugitive slaves had come into this State from Missouri. Many had come during the fall and early winter, and under a then existing law of the State it was unlawful for negroes to come into Iowa, and they could be arrested and put in jail till they gave security for good behavior and ability to support themselves. The Secretary of State, James Wright, noticing that I took an active part in the House proceedings, came and informed me that there were a number of negroes confined in the Des Moines jail, under the State law, at the instigation of persons opposed to the national administration, and he asked that I devise some means to stop those arrests and set free the persons now

imprisoned. I thought this matter over and that evening I wrote a bill entitled, "A bill for an act to repeal chapter seventy-two of the acts of the Third General Assembly of Iowa, entitled an act to prohibit the emigration of free negroes into this State"; and next day, January 19, I introduced the bill, which was read a first time. Russell, of Washington, moved to lay it on the table, and called for the ayes and noes, and the ayes were eighteen and the noes seventy-two. So the bill was not laid on the table, but was referred to the committee on the judiciary, which on the 29th reported back the same bill, word for word, with a preamble attached and called it a substitute, and recommended its passage. On the 1st of February the bill was passed, with only five members voting no, and they were one republican and four democrats. The bill passed the senate without amendment, was signed by the governor, and the imprisoned negroes were set free, and no more arrests were made. This act made Iowa, in reality, one of the free states of this Union, and it is found as chapter seven of the acts of the Tenth General Assembly.

As an indication of the feelings that prevailed in the minds of the "Unionists" of the House, it may be proper to mention here, as a matter of history, that on the 15th of February I offered a joint resolution in relation to lands in Iowa, owned by rebels then in arms against the government, which is recorded on page 222 of the Journal, thus:

"Resolved, That the General Assembly of Iowa hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to confiscate and grant the aforesaid lands, lying within the State of Iowa, to the use and support of the widows and orphans of the soldiers from Iowa who have died, or may die in the service of the United States during the present war against treason and rebellion."

On the adoption of this resolution the vote is recorded on page 223 of the Journal, and stood ayes seventy-seven, noes six. The noes were one Republican and five Democrats. The sixth Democrat was absent. Votes like this, in that dark time of our nation's struggle for life, gave color and occasion for the statement that the leaders of the Democratic party of the north were in sympathy with the leaders of the Rebellion in the south. If they were not, then their own action, and the record which they themselves made, did them a great wrong. Of course, as a consequence they suffered in public opinion, and even jokes were thrust at them in a disparaging way. For instance, one day a patch of the ceiling plaster in the old hall fell with a crash upon the floor. It fell in the open space between the outer row of seats and the hall door, and the Democratic members sat in that row near where the plaster fell. Of course, every one was startled; but as soon as quiet was restored a member jumped up and moved that the sergeant at arms be ordered to provide helmets for the members' heads to protect them from the falling plaster of the ceiling. Then another member jumped up and moved on amendment that the "copperheads" be excepted, because their heads are hard enough already. This occurred when we met after dinner, and though the speaker was in the chair, he had not yet called the House to order, and so these motions did not go on record.

One of the most important measures enacted by the Tenth General Assembly was known as Senate File No. 89, an act to prohibit the circulation of foreign bank notes in this State. Senator B. F. Gue, of Scott county, was the author of the bill, and he has furnished me with the history of its pas-

sage through the Senate, preceded by a sketch of the reasons why such a law was necessary, which I will give in his own words, thus:

THE BANISHMENT OF 'RED DOG' AND 'WILD CAT' FROM IOWA.

"When Iowa became a State by the adoption of the constitution of 1846 the party then in the majority decreed by that instrument that the General Assembly of this State shall prohibit by law any person, association, company or corporation from exercising the privileges of banking, or creating paper to circulate as money. No corporate body shall be created, renewed or extended with the privilege of making or putting in circulation any bill or other paper to circulate as money.

"The democratic party of those days stood for 'hard money,' to-wit, gold and silver, but neglected, by a strange oversight, to prohibit the circulation of foreign bank bills, and the citizens of Iowa soon found their State flooded with the hardest assortment of 'red dog' and 'wild cat' currency that ever afflicted a defenceless people. Irresponsible banking concerns from the backwoods of Maine to the everglades of Florida; from Canada to Arkansas; from North Carolina to Nebraska, rained down upon Iowa's brokers and produce buyers their beautifully engraved promises to pay, and the commission offered by the interested manufacturers of this ready made money, was sufficient to smother the scruples of the consignees, and they set to work to exchange the alluring bank bills for wheat, pork, beef, barley, oats, corn and potatoes, as rapidly as possible. Bank note detectors were in better demand than Bibles, while gold and silver were hidden away in old stockings, to be fished out only to enter land and pay taxes, for 'Uncle Sam' and the county treasurers were not dealing in the beautifully engraved bank notes, whose mission was to get as far away from home as possible, and wander about the rural districts of a 'far country' till they were too ragged and worn to retrace their steps homeward. It soon became apparent that gold and silver could not do the increasing business of our prosperous State, and that some kind of paper money must be provided.

"The financial crash of 1857 ruined the shaky banks all over the country, and gold and silver were hoarded everywhere, until good money almost disappeared from circulation. Various schemes were devised in Iowa, to procure money to transact business. One Davenport banking house established a bank at the little Mormon village of Florence, in Nebraska. A Des Moines banker established the Bank of Nebraska, and a Davenport milling and mercantile firm had their handsomely engraved due bills in bank note form. As there was no law regulating these bills, or requiring their redemption in coin, the volume of their issue was only limited by the capacity of the printing press on which they were manufactured. These and similar transactions made it apparent that Iowa must provide a sound system of banking.

"The new constitution adopted in 1857 removed the prohibition of banking, and the legislature of 1858 enacted an excellent banking law, under which the State Bank of Iowa was established. A few years later the National bank act, modeled in several particulars after the Iowa plan, gave the country a sound paper currency. Then came the issue of greenbacks directly from the United States Treasury, and sound money was plenty. But still depreciated paper money was crowded upon the people by produce

buyers and private bankers, the poorer currency always finding men to push it on shares. Our citizens were yearly losing immense sums from the failure of these foreign banks, and heroic measures alone could banish the worthless stuff from our State.

"I was a member of the Senate from Scott county, in the Tenth General Assembly, and on the 25th day of January I introduced into that body Senate File No. 89, a bill prohibiting the circulation in Iowa of foreign bank bills. The act provided:

If any person pay out, or offer to pay, or in any manner put in circulation any bank note, bill, or other instrument intended to circulate as money, issued by any bank, individual or corporation elsewhere than in this State, except United States Treasury notes, National bank notes or bills of the State Bank of Iowa he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction be fined five dollars for every such note or other instrument so paid out or offered to be paid out.

"The bill was referred to the Committee on Banks, and ordered printed.

"When the news went out that such an act was pending in the Senate, a strong effort was made by all brokers and private bankers and produce buyers to defeat its passage. They sent a formidable lobby to the capital to kill the bill that would cut off their large profits made in putting the 'wild cat' currency out among the people. But the people who had been so often victimized by the worthless stuff were also heard from. Hosts of letters came urging the prompt passage of the bill. The papers of the State took up the discussion, and the conflict extended to all sections. Senator T. W. Woolson (father of Judge Woolson of the United States district court) was chairman of the Committee on Banks, and an able lawyer. He gave all parties to the contest a patient hearing, and finally decided to recommend the passage of the bill. A majority of the committee sustained him, while a strong minority headed by Senator Patterson reported that in their judgment it was unwise to interfere by legislation with the rights of individuals to contracts, and recommended its indefinite postponement.

"On the 15th day of February the bill came up for consideration, and was fought by every means known to parliamentary practice. Among the well known lawyers who resisted its passage were Senators McCrary, Bassett, Hunt, Patterson and Burdick. I defended it to the best of my ability in the debate, giving my reasons at length, supported by facts, as to the losses sustained by our own citizens through the selfish greed of the manufacturers and dealers in the worthless irredeemable paper over which our State had no control. Senator Woolson met the legal objections in an able argument, and sustained the measure on its merits as legitimate legislative protection to our people.

"When the roll was called upon its passage the vote stood 27 yeas to 13 nays. Up to this time the opponents of the bill felt sure of being able to defeat it. But when it passed the Senate by a vote so decisive, they became alarmed, and prepared to concentrate all their efforts upon killing it in the House. I conferred with some of its friends in that body, and placed the bill in charge of Samuel McNutt, of Muscatine. Its fate in the House can best be told by him." (Signed) B. F. GUE.

Now, in order to show the unpublished and personal maneuvering that is often necessary to secure the passage of a measure that has strong opposition, I will here relate the inside history of the progress of this bill in its various stages in the House of Representatives. It was reported to the

House on the 16th day of February and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. At the committee's next meeting it was taken up for consideration, and on a vote it was found that of the ten members of which the committee consisted, six were opposed to the bill, and only four were in favor of it. So the majority recommended that the bill do not pass. The four in the minority were Bereman, Littler, Runyan and McNutt, and we declared that we would submit a minority report. The majority did not wish to have a minority report made, and then voted to consider the bill farther at a future meeting, a week hence. On that day we stood divided the same as before, and the majority made the same motion and vote for another week, which prevailed. The thought then occurred to me that the majority of the committee being opposed to the bill, did not intend to report it in time for the House to act upon it, and I so stated to friends of the measure, for I had already canvassed the House and had a list of the members showing how they stood. Believing that something must be done I went to Mr. Spurrier, of Johnson county, and having told him how we stood, asked him to offer a resolution ordering the Committee on Ways and Means to report to the House Senate file No. 89. He took my resolution and said he would offer it if Mr. Gilchrist would not report that bill this forenoon. I then went to Mr. Gilchrist and told him that Mr. Spurrier had a resolution which he meant to offer, ordering the Ways and Means Committee to report to this House Senate file No. 89, which would be discreditable to our committee, and it would be better to report the bill before such a resolution might be offered. "Certainly," said Mr. Gilchrist, "I will make the majority report against the bill forthwith," which he did, as is recorded on page 363 of the Journal. I had already written the minority report, which was signed and in the possession of Mr. Bereman, who had agreed to offer it. He did so, as is recorded on page 364 of the Journal, and is in these words: "We, the undersigned, members of the Ways and Means Committee, to whom was referred Senate file No. 89, a bill for an act to prohibit the circulation of foreign bank notes in the State of Iowa, beg leave to dissent from the report of the majority of the committee on that bill. We believe that the provisions of that bill are just and wise, and well calculated to advance the best interests of the people of this State, and we therefore recommend that the said bill do pass." So the bill with both reports went on file on the Speaker's table.

I took care to watch its progress from day to day, toward the top of the pile, until it was on top, and would, in order be next acted upon; but it did not come up before us in its order, and I went and found it down toward the bottom of the pile. I then determined to ask leave to call it up and have it acted upon. This was a motion which was customary for members to make. I made that motion and the Speaker said, "The gentleman from Muscatine is out of order, for there is a rule of this House requiring a two-thirds vote of the House to take up any bill reported against by a committee." This announcement by the Speaker astonished me, and holding up our pamphlet of printed rules asked the Speaker to refer me to that rule. He replied it was not among the printed rules, but he had declared it from the chair to expedite business and for the public good. I then lifted my arm and shook my head at the Speaker and exclaimed in a loud voice, "We will reach that bill yet." The House by this time was interested in what

was going on between me and the Speaker, and John Russell, of Jones county, taking the floor told the Speaker that such a rule was never heard of in this House, and he had been a member before, and the Speaker could not make such a rule. The Speaker replied that he had announced it from the chair, and it would remain the rule until the House should order otherwise. While this discussion was going on I wrote a resolution to condemn and annul the Speaker's rule and, taking the floor, asked leave to introduce a resolution. The Speaker promptly declared me out of order, which was correct because we were then working on bills on their second reading. Dr. Sears, of Poweshiek, jumped up and moved that the rule be suspended and the gentleman from Muscatine have leave to introduce a resolution, and the House voted aye. I then introduced the following resolution which is found on page 488 of the journal:

Resolved, That the rule (if any such exists) which requires a two-thirds vote to take from the table a bill adversely reported upon by a committee, is hereby rescinded, and a majority shall in all cases, be competent to take from the table any bill in its order.

Samuel Russell of Washington, an old lawyer, ex-member of the Ohio legislature, and a polished orator, opposed my resolution, flattered the honesty and earnestness of its author, but said he had written it in a moment of haste, and on reflection would probably wish to change some of its phraseology, and so he moved to refer it to the Committee on Rules. But the friends of the bill saw the object of the motion, and voted it down, and on the question being put, the House adopted my resolution. I then moved to take up Senate File No. 89, a bill to prohibit the circulation of foreign bank notes in this State, upon which the ayes and nays were called, and resulted in ayes, 48; nays, 35. So the bill was taken up, and the fight on it lasted two days, during which every art and device known to parliamentary practice was used to modify, amend and defeat the bill. In the course of the debate the speaker left the chair and made a violent speech against the bill, declaring that if it was carried into effect, it would drive out of the State currency that was absolutely necessary to carry on business, that he had twenty thousand dollars interest in a bank in Muscatine, and he knew what the result would be—it would be utterly disastrous to the farmers and laboring men, and ruinous to business, and so on.

Oliver, of Monona, followed him, and though Oliver was opposed to the bill, he was opposed to the Speaker coming down on the floor to make speeches, and in sarcastic tones exclaimed: "Our Speaker is neglecting the duties of the position to which we elected him, and coming down on this floor to influence our votes; he jumps around among us like a stump-tailed bull in fly time." This short speech and forcible simile were so apt and applicable, and so well uttered as never to be forgotten by some of us. Finally after a heated discussion, and many efforts to amend and kill the bill, it was passed on the 17th day of March, just as it came from the Senate, by a vote of forty-nine ayes to thirty-eight noes, and is chapter fifty-three of the session laws of the Tenth General Assembly. That act still remains on the statute books, and no attempt has ever been made since to repeal it. I have stated that this Legislature was composed of earnest, honest, and moral men, and the historical facts here related are not inconsistent with that statement. These facts simply show that where men's personal inter-

ests are concerned their actions may be influenced and controlled by those interests, and yet the men themselves honestly believe that they are acting strictly in the line of duty. Or, as the Scottish poet has it:

“For och! mankind are unco weak,
And little to be trusted—
If self the wavering balance shake,
'Tis rarely right adjusted.”

Memory now recalls the Tenth General Assembly as a body of earnest, honest men, some of whom differed as to the best line of policy for the national government to pursue in that dark day. I would fondly mention the members individually, give my recollections of their several personal peculiar characteristics and records, but that is impossible in these remarks. Our country survived the life and death struggle through which she passed in the conflict of civil war. Many of our best and bravest citizens, north and south, perished in that conflict. Our nation passed through the fires of purification. She suffered the pangs of transformation from a slave-harbor-ing land to a glorious free republic on whose soil the foot of a slave should never more tread. The flag of our union, carried mainly by the freemen of the north, triumphed over all opposition and was acknowledged victorious

“On the field of Appomattox,
By its famous apple tree,”

when the confederate chieftain, General Lee, surrendered his sword to the conqueror, the immortal Grant.

In other lands and in other nations the fate of vanquished rebels is bad indeed. Death, banishment and confiscation are their lot. But it remained for the great Republic of America to show to the world an example of mercy, of lenity, and even of forgiveness, unparalelled in all the pages of history. In our glorious land armed rebels and traitors against our government, who had slain thousands of our citizens in the unholy war, were not punished. When conquered and captured they were simply told to go home and sin no more, and all would be well.

Since that eventful day our nation has prospered as no nation ever before prospered. And now the continued prosperity of our great Republic depends solely upon the virtue and intelligence of her citizens. No matter in what land these citizens may have been born, here we must all be Americans, and Americans only. No discordant or foreign factions can be encouraged in this country. We must all be united for the best interests of this glorious land in which we live, and we shall continue to have

“A union of lakes, a union of lands,
A union of states that none can sever,—
A union of hearts, a union of hands—
American Union forever.”

Music by the choir, “Star Spangled Banner,” followed.

The President then called upon Hon. L. L. Ainsworth, of Fayette county, who said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND PIONEER LAW-MAKERS—The word address which the President has used is not the correct word. All the other men selected to do anything here were to deliver addresses but if you look at the program you will see they say I am to talk to you. Now, before I commence to talk

to you on the subject allotted to me I want to tell you one thing. In the legislature of 1860 the speaker was a German from Davenport. He made a peculiar ruling that I presume was true from the standpoint of his party. When the Senator from Wapello rose to a point of order, claiming that another senator was out of order from the fact that he was abusing the Democratic Party, the speaker replied, "I want the Senator from Wapello to understand that it's always in order to abuse the Democratic Party." Now to go to the legislature of 1860 and 1862 when we met in the old State House. In 1860 there were of course old members who had had one session of experience, and there were new members most of whom had had no experience in legislative matters. There were among those legislators also a number who had had experience for years—experience in the territorial legislature—experience in the early legislatures of the State and knew much of legislation, but I think that I can say to you Pioneer Law-Makers, that those men who had been there for two years before and who had been in the prior legislature in the opinion of the new members were "back numbers." I was one of the new ones and when we went to work it was the fire and the life and the energy and judgment of the new members which we felt was about to run that thing, didn't we, Governor Scott?

GOVERNOR SCOTT—That's about the way it was.

AINSWORTH—We went at it and soon we discovered that experience in legislation was worth something as well as in any other matters. We found we had men there who were educated at legislating; that we had men capable of giving us pointers all the time as to what was to be done. I believe in fact, in that body there was one gentleman, pure, patriotic, honest and able, who did more for the legislation of 1860 than any other man in the Legislature. I refer to Gideon S. Bailey, of Van Buren county, a man who had served for four sessions in the Territorial Legislature; a man who had been a member of the First Constitutional Convention; a man who never permitted a bill to pass through that Senate unless he had carefully criticised it, and yet a man who was not popular with us because we thought he scolded too much, just as the obdurate child frequently thinks his parents scold too much, and yet, as the parent makes the child walk in the correct path, so Gideon S. Bailey did more to make that Senate walk in the correct path than any other man in it. I am happy to know that he is still living in his home in Van Buren county, in this State. I want to say here that Van Buren county is remarkable in some respects. Gideon S. Bailey was succeeded in 1862 by McCrary, who had had some territorial experience with Bailey, and who was a good man. The reason that Van Buren county men are usually good is that they look about and if they find a man in that county that has got anything in him they help him. See what they have made out of Judge Wright and Clay Caldwell and those fellows! Now, in that Legislature there were other men of ability. There was James F. Wilson, now our honored United States Senator, who had had experience in the House and who had been a member of the Third Constitutional Convention, and who was one of the ablest legislators of the State of his age, who demonstrated as chairman of the judiciary committee in the House of Representatives afterwards that Iowa lawyers were fit to take the lead in the Congress of the United States. There was John W. Rankin, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, a lawyer of ability, and Hurley, of Louisa county, always able.

There was D. S. Wilson, of Dubuque, who had served in the Territorial Legislature, and a man of ability, a man of education, and also a man that had only one fault, and that was that he was too kind. He did not desire to injure anybody else's feelings, and if the avowment of his sentiment would hurt the feelings of the man with whom he was associated, he hesitated to do it. I was with him in the army. He was my Colonel, and I actually believe that his kindness of heart would have led him to let an enemy escape before he would fire at him. I say this not to detract from Colonel Wilson's merit, but because it was the true picture of the man. The Senate of 1860 possessed a coterie of men who were financiers who were seldom equaled. Coolbaugh—need I name Coolbaugh's name to Iowa Pioneers as a man of distinguished financial ability? as a man of genial disposition and an able man in every way. Pusey of Council Bluffs; the people of his congressional district or the men who have associated with him in the Congress of the United States have said more than I can say of him. Gray, of Lansing, Allamakee county, quiet, not talkative, but a man with financial ability such that when he said anything in the Senate regarding the financial matters, the senators were led to adopt the views that he held as a rule. Saunders of Mt. Pleasant; you know the name. We lent him to the people of Nebraska, and they sent him to the United States Senate on account of his worth and strength of character which he acquired in the State of Iowa. Patterson of Muscatine, though at the head of a failing banking concern, was a good financier. It was not his fault but the fault of those with whom he was associated that wrecked the State Bank at Muscatine. Patterson has been described to the people as a wit. He was more. He was a man of worth. He was a man of legal ability. He was a man of financial ability. He was more. He was one of the kindest-hearted and best of men. Let me tell you how you will know. After his failure in 1860, and before the extra session in 1861, an incident occurred at the time of that extra session which will illustrate fully what kind of a man A. O. Patterson was. I will correct my dates. Between the session of 1858, of which he was a member, and the session of 1860, financial misfortunes had overtaken him. During the session of 1858 he had a negro by the name of Sam who was here with him at Des Moines, waited upon him and was his man, and Patterson looked after him, and cared for him, and paid him. When he was ready to start for the session of 1860 he says to Sam: "I can't take you, Sam. I have not the money to take you there and care for you, but I must leave you," and he came to Des Moines without Sam. The next stage (for we came by stage in those days) that rolled into Des Moines brought Sam, and he went to the house where Patterson had taken up his headquarters and said, "Massa Patterson you hadn't no money to bring me and I had money to come, and I came to wait on you just as I used to. If you want anything, let me know, and I will work to pay my board." A man who could attach a negro to him like that had a heart and was worthy of being a friend of any person. In that Senate were other men, and the balance wheel of that Senate was those other men, men like James M. Kent of Cedar county; Geo. F. Green of Jackson, a very effective and experienced county judge, who expected that Iowa would go to the bow-wows if the county judge system was not continued, but in every other respect was a man of good judgment and good sense. Those men were the men who held the boys in check.

I ought here to say one word regarding one other member of the Senate and then I have done with personal allusions. And that is in justice, I believe, to one of the best men that was in that Senate, who was in the legislature wrongfully attacked, and that was Harvey English, of Fremont county. Living on the border of the State as he did, where there was feeling between partisans, he was accused, by radical men of the opposite party, of a lack of loyalty to the Union, but it was my fortune to associate with him and to know him well, and I believe he was as loyal a man as there was in the Senate. I believe he was as loyal a Democrat as there was in that Senate, and Democrats in that Senate sent four officers to the Union army. The Democrats in that Senate furnished General Bussey. He was the youngest member of the Senate and the military distinction which he achieved is one of which the entire State of Iowa is proud, and I believe to-day that Harvey English was as loyal as was General Bussey. We met with a terrible loss in that Senate on account of the loyalty of the members of it. When Colonel Scott decided that he was better fitted for a military man than for a legislator he went into the army, and we lost a good and able legislator and the army gained a good and efficient officer. When Captain Powers went out with the company from his own county we lost another good legislator. When Captain Taylor, another, and so on, I might go on and enumerate those men of 1860, who went out from the Senate to the battlefield, but it is not necessary. The records of the State show that. I know there was a little fraction of men in the Senate—small—I might hope to say very small—who held to the idea that any man who had been a Democrat that did not clothe himself in sack-cloth and ashes and curse himself for having voted the Democratic ticket and declare that he would ratify everything the Republican party had done or might do was a copperhead, and proceed to kick at him, but I am happy to say, gentlemen, that the result showed that the kickers were a great deal more injured by the operation than were the kicked. Now, when the Senate had become organized they had work to do. The Code of 1851 had been the last intelligent expression, I might say, of the laws of the State. Don't understand, Pioneer Law-Makers, that I want to in the least detract from the intelligence of those legislators who were between, but I say that a Code which is constantly changed by amendments without reference to the body of the Code is really not an intelligent exposition of the law. It is when the whole law is collected so that upon reading the Code you can read the law upon the subject that it becomes the intelligent expression of the law.

A commission had been appointed in 1858 for the purpose of changing the Code of Practice and the Criminal Code, and of revising the balance of the laws. They had reported. That commission was composed of three able lawyers, I think, as could be found at that time in Iowa. W. T. Barker, of Dubuque, was a lawyer, a successful jury lawyer of extensive practice, and a lawyer of critical mind. William Smyth, of Marion, had been an attorney of large experience, learning and ability. C. Ben Darwin, of Burlington, was a man of learning and large ability, but utterly unfit for any position in the world from the fact that he assumed that anything that suited anybody else was utterly unfit for use by him. And in reporting the Code he was opposed to everything which any court in the world had ever sanctioned as being good law. He went about hunting little pieces of stat-

utory laws in this state, and that state, and in the other state, and sticking them together and claimed that that was law. He went to San Francisco, where men are not so critical, and I understand has succeeded comfortably well. But they reported a Code which in the main was a good one. We tussled and quarreled over it to some extent, and we gave it to the people of Iowa, the House and the Senate together. We had a Joint Judiciary Committee meeting. Don't let me be understood as claiming that the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and House of the State of Iowa did that. It would be gross egotism in me were I to do that, because in the House were lawyers like J. C. Hall, Judge Claggett and Clay Caldwell, and like Rush Clark, all of them men of ability, and all of them men who gave invaluable aid in the compiling of the law. But when we got done we had such a revision as worked well in the State of Iowa. In the committee we had simply a contest between conservatism and radicalism. We had contests between those who wished to make everything new, and those who wished to avail themselves of that which was old. Judge Hall led the conservatives, and Clay Caldwell came very near leading the radicals, and the Code was made by concessions by both parties, and unlike most compromises it suited pretty well.

We had other questions. That legislature had the revision of the revenue law, and the two Committees on Ways and Means worked together with that and finally, having come to something like an agreement, they gave to Gurley, of Davenport, the making up of a bill which should be just and not stringent, so as to collect the taxes, and he worked manfully and bravely and produced a revenue law which has been, with some amendments, the revenue law of the State from that day to this, and one which it is extremely problematical whether the one reported by our present commission is not a worse law than that.

But we had other questions. I come now to the question which shows that the people of 1860, or rather 1859-60 had no sense or else that there had been a miracle worked. Some of the older people will remember. Of course I don't remember, but my friend, Judge Wright, and Mr. Parvin and some of the older members will remember that one of the principal issues was whether the insane asylum at Mt. Pleasant should be completed or not. Judge Nourse, who was then stumping the State, claimed that it ought to be completed. My friend McClintock, who was opposed to him, claimed it would cost too much money to build it. When we met the question whether it should be completed was before the Senate and House. The representatives generally claimed that it never ought to have been begun. They admitted that they had been swindled in the plans. That it was going to cost a great deal more money than ought to be put in an institution of that kind, but thought it was better to finish it. The democrats thought it better to throw away what had been done, and I myself had the honor of proving to the Senate conclusively that it would be an even one hundred years before there would be crazy people enough in Iowa to fill that house [Laughter!]; but rather than waste the money that had been put in there under the management of Senator Saunders the appropriation was made. Well, since that I have been in the legislature again. In 1872 I was in the House. Another insane asylum has been built at Independence. I live in a neighboring county to Buchanan. When I came down to the legislature I

came to tell them that our county was filled with crazy people and the insane asylum in Buchanan county was not big enough to hold them. That was twelve years after I demonstrated that we could not fill this one at Mt. Pleasant in one hundred years. That tends to show the growth of the State, for relatively there are no more crazy people than then. It is an honor to the State of Iowa, however, that it has made a place where our unfortunate insane can be taken to where they can be cared for; where they can in many instances be restored to reason—where they bring out those whose minds are affected and give them freedom rather than to confine them and treat them in the brutal manner they used to be treated. But the Legislature of 1860 had tougher problems than of those to deal with. Those were trifles compared with what we had to do. I want, briefly, to call your attention to some of them. It may be assumed and has been assumed that the record of the trials and tribulations and grand efforts of the Legislature are found in the laws they enacted. It's the laws they do not enact, it is troubles they have to overcome in other directions which requires the greatest ability on the part of the legislator, but we had questions which were of great moment and our action on them would not get fairly into history if I did not call your attention to them. Now, in the Senate Journal of 1860, on page 230, I find resolutions which I read to you:

“Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed (the House concurring), one from the Senate and two from the House, to confer with the City Council of Des Moines, and if they can give good and satisfactory security, the Treasurer of State is hereby authorized to loan them, for two years, with ten per cent interest, an amount out of the State Treasury, sufficient to build a sidewalk from the end of the sidewalk now finished, on Court Avenue, to Fifth Street, thence north up to Walnut Street, thence east to the Capitol building.”

That did not pass, but we had it to discuss, and we had it to consider, and we had it to act upon. I don't remember whether it was rejected because the city could not give security, or because we did not think it was a good investment, but it went down. That did not end our troubles, however, for on page 317 of the same journal, I find the following which was offered by Mr. Gray, whom I have spoken of as being a financier and a very careful man—he offered the following resolution:

“Resolved That the Secretary of State is hereby instructed to cause to be laid a sidewalk from the end of the plank walk on Court Avenue, to the Capitol; said sidewalk to be two plank at least one foot wide, laid two feet apart, running parallel with the street; said sidewalk to remain the property of the State.”

If Mr. Gray had not been a very careful man, he would have made it three planks instead of two. On the same page Mr. Rankin offered the following resolution:

“Resolved, That after the 4th day of March next, the Senate will hold an evening session on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays of each week, commencing at 7 o'clock,” to which Mr. Drummond offered the following amendment: “And the Secretary of State be instructed to furnish each member of this body with a pair of good gum boots, to enable him to get through the mud on Capitol hill, going and returning from the Senate.” Mr. Duncombe offered the following amendment: “And the Secretary of State be instructed to furnish each member of this body with an Indian pony, to enable him to get through the mud on Capitol hill, going and returning from the Senate.”

Those were all voted down but it shows you the trouble that we had. It was one of those serious things with which the Senate had to contend.

There was another thing with which we had to contend. I do not find it in the record. I remember that the then senator from Chickasaw county, in one of the terrible blows and storms which we sometimes have here, became afraid that the building would blow down and the assembled legislative wisdom of the State of Iowa would be lost, and we had a discussion as to whether or not we should leave and go to the court house and hold our sessions there. The resolution is here and provides that on and after such a date we shall hold our sessions in the court house on the West Side. That didn't pass for the reason that some of us thought that if we were destroyed by the falling of the building, they would find other men to take our place.

There was another question of great importance in that Legislature. A bill was introduced to make cattle, sheep and grain a legal tender for debt. It was referred to a special committee, and I will read to you the report of that special committee:

"The committee to whom was referred Senate File No. 172, entitled "an act to define what shall be a legal tender in certain cases," beg leave to make the following report, to-wit:

"Your committee have labored assiduously over the above bill, and have brought a very large amount of legal ability, of a very high order, to bear upon it, and it is with great tribulation, after spending many sleepless days and nights over it, and, independent of the wisdom, intelligence, and strength of mind they have spent over said bill, they have consulted talent, the possessors of which would not, in the least, be insulted if compared with a Webster, a Choate, or a Reverdy Johnson.

"(Your committee, of course, mean members of this honorable body,) and are sorry to have to give it as their opinion, that such an act, would doubtless be very useful indeed, and no doubt result beneficially to a large number of the citizens of this State, if it was not for a very foolish provision contained in an equally foolish and useless instrument, commonly called 'the Constitution' of the United States, which a lot of fellows adopted at Philadelphia a few years ago (when it would have been better for the human family, no doubt, had the framers of said instrument stayed at home and broke prairie). Said provision will be found by any of the members of this body who can read the English language, in article 1st, section ten, of that instrument, which emphatically says that no State shall 'make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts.'

"Your committee beg leave to express their regret that the fellows who framed that instrument, had no knowledge of a higher law, nor never consulted the General Assembly of Iowa, or they certainly would have included in the instrument, not only cattle, sheep, and grain, as a legal tender in payment of debts, but spotted pigs and pointer dogs."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who wrote that report?

MR. AINSWORTH: It is signed J. H. Powers, J. A. Johnson and A. O. Patterson. Mr. Powers probably could tell you who wrote that. There was a discussion over that, but there came one of the most difficult questions we had. A motion was made to expunge all notice of bill No. 172 from the record, but Senator Davis, of Clinton, who was an old Whig, made an argument against expunging it, yet the general make-up being Republican, they stood by the whig doctrine and kept it on the record.

But we had other questions. The Senate was insulted because of an article written by Ingersoll, in which he said that one of the Senators had a fine body, and that it was a pity that God had not given him a mind commensurate with his body. We had recently passed a bill making the Little Sioux navigable. We, in our righteous indignation, expelled Mr. Ingersoll from the Senate. We refused to let him report there any longer, but he

apologized. He said that he meant no disrespect to the Senate; that he only told what he deemed true, and would suggest an easy way out of it—would suggest that the Senate pass a bill giving to the Senator brains suitable for his body, and that he had no doubt we could do it, as we had made a stream navigable without any water in it. Then we reconsidered the act of putting him out, as the apology was ample, or ought to have been. We had all these knotty questions to rustle with, and it is a wonder that we ever got through with as good a reputation as we did.

Judge Wright says I'd better quit, but I tell him I am not through. I am not going to last much longer.

I do not say that the Senate of 1862 was the peer of the Senate of 1860. The times had changed. The period of the two was different. We had different questions to struggle with. The war had come upon us. We had everything of that class to provide for, and they were all good, true and loyal men. They were the legislators who looked after the interests of the country and after the interests of the State of Iowa well and faithfully, and if you don't all know it, by the consent of Gov. Gue and the consent of the members of the Senate which he presided over, I would say that he was one of the most careful and considerate legislators I ever knew. When he went after any particular measure, he went after it intelligently and in such a manner as to accomplish that which he sought. Gov. Dungan was a good legislator, too, but we men who had been there the session before, pushed him back a little. We did not give him altogether the chances that the others members had. And another thing, there was in that legislature a man who was the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, who from his legal experience—from his Judicial experience—from his natural ability, and from the culture and education which he had acquired as Judge of the Supreme Court in the State of Iowa, sitting as associate of our President, put all us lawyers back. He was a man who was able to stand there, and while Duncombe was an able lawyer, and while there were other able lawyers in the Senate, Judge Woodard as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, took the work off the hands of the others.

We had one other question like the difficult questions we had in 1860. That was when a resolution, regarding the making of a Brigadier General, came into the Senate, recommending the appointment of some one as Brigadier General, and it was moved by some one that the name be stricken out, and that after the words "the people of the different senatorial districts having expressed their confidence in" — (and here we inserted the entire list of senators), "be it resolved that our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to obtain the appointment of these persons as Brigadier Generals, or to any other positions of profit and trust." Well, there we were. We knew our ability. We made our recommendation. But after we attempted to pass it—when we attempted to pass it, there were some of them concluded if they voted for it they might lose their position in the Senate and become private citizens; so it was beaten, twenty-one votes against it and nineteen for it. That was the only real struggle we had in that Senate of any consequence. We gave in that Senate to the soldiers that had gone to fight for the country, the ballot. We did for the country all that the State of Iowa could do. The Senate and House of 1860 and 1862 were as loyal as was ever any Senate and House, and if, as Senator

McNutt said, this loyalty was stalking abroad in Iowa in 1864, it was because so many Senators and Representatives of 1862 had gone to the war. We voted our bonds—voted more bonds than the United States government wanted, to help out. We did everything which we could do, and we left our acts for our fellow pioneer law-makers and subsequent law-makers and the people of Iowa to examine and approve or disapprove, but I do not stand here to applaud or to condemn the others.

Washington Galland here said:

GENTLEMEN—I see no better opportunity than the present to appear as the representative or substitute for a gentleman, a member of this Association, whom all of us would have been exceedingly glad, I have no doubt, to have heard from personally. I refer to Hon. Daniel F. Miller, who was a member of the Territorial Legislature of 1840. As I have his written address, it will require about fifteen minutes to read it, I presume. I will now ask the members of this Association to allow me to read it.

The President said:

If there are no objections the paper will be read.

Mr. Galland proceeded to read as follows:

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association of Iowa—I notice in your circular that you have appointed me to speak before you concerning the Iowa Territorial Legislature of 1840, of which I was a member.

I would be very glad to speak before you on that theme if my health permitted; but I am now, and have been for the several past weeks, confined to my room by that most miserable of all diseases, la grippe, and, cannot, therefore, fill the appointment which you have made for me; but if you will excuse my absence I will dictate a few remarks to be written and laid before you, which you can have read.

I was a Representative from Lee county in the Territorial Legislative Assembly of Iowa in 1840. It consisted of two parts: A council by name, and similar in character to the Senate of our State legislative assembly, and a House of Representatives. Our territorial governor was Robert Lucas, who had formerly been a governor of the State of Ohio; and his private secretary was Hon. T. S. Parvin, the present distinguished light and leader of masonry in Iowa. Governor Lucas has long since paid the debt of nature; and of all the members of that legislative assembly, I believe there are but two yet spared to mortal life besides myself, to-wit: Alfred Hebard, of Red Oak, Iowa, and Francis Springer, of Columbus Junction.

Iowa was organized an independent territory in July, 1838. In those days the legislatures met annually, and the consequence was that the legislature of 1840, when I had a seat, was the third legislative assembly of the territory of Iowa. The legislature met at Burlington; and all there was of the territory of Iowa at that time, was a strip of country fifty miles wide, on the west bank of the Mississippi river, extending from the north line of Missouri on the south, to where is now the south line of Minnesota, on the north; and the population of the territory in that year (1840), consisted of about 42,000 inhabitants.

The balance of what now constitutes the State of Iowa was possessed and rambled over by the Sac and Fox and Sioux Indians.

The council met in the basement of a newly-built but small Catholic church. The House of Representatives had its sittings in an unfinished Methodist church; the pulpit of the church answering for the Speaker's chair. That was a famous building in its day, because besides being a church for preaching and Sunday-school teaching and prayer-meetings, it was the court house of Des Moines county where district court was held for many years; and it was also general town hall for the public gatherings of the city, both municipal and political, and it was known generally throughout the county by the distinguished name of "*Old Zion Church.*" Some years ago I versified its history in the following lines:

OLD ZION CHURCH.

Old Zion Church of Burlington
 Was famous chapel in its day,
 Ere Hodges on the gallows swung,
 Or Black Hawk tribe had gone away.

There preachers preached on Sabbath day,
 And Mason there held court of yore,
 And legislative chambers sat,
 And ground out statutes by the score.

And there the wise men of that day,
 Oft met to talk and hold debate
 Concerning needs of Burlington,
 And other things to regulate.

There Methodism had a hold—
 There took its start in Hawkeye land.
 And for sincerity of faith,
 Was then, as now, in all things grand.

Of bricks it was the first church built
 Upon the Black Hawk purchase ground;
 And stately in its size and form,
 Its structure was in all things sound.

It was the work of settler men,
 Built in the days of Pioneer.
 And should have stood a monument,
 Old Settler memories to cheer.

But ruthless hands its wall tore down,
 While good men wept to see it fall,
 And where it once in honor stood,
 Now stands an operatic hall,
 Where dancing and dramatic plays,
 Usurp the thoughts of former days.

* * * * *

And where are they—those men of yore,
 Who built that church with open hand,
 Those settler men? Gone—passed away,
 But rest now in supernal land.

I will not here speak of the virtues and talents of the two living remnants above referred to, of that legislative assembly, because they are still with you, and you personally know them to be men of great moral and intellectual worth. But I will say a few words of some of the departed members of that legislative assembly. In the House with me there were two

highly gifted gentlemen, but of very different natures (both lawyers), M. D. Browning and Shepherd Leffler. The first named gentleman was a bundle of brain power, he surpassed in wit and sarcasm, and was great in speech before a court and jury, but especially before a jury. In those days imprisonment for debt was a common occurrence under the laws of Iowa, and I regarded it as a remnant of barbarism, and introduced a bill for its repeal. Browning opposed its repeal with all the arguments he could muster, aided by his wit and sarcasm, and having the prejudices of most of the members on his side, succeeded in defeating my bill. But in a few days after that bill was defeated, a personal friend of Mr. Browning was immured behind a prison wall for debt, which moved the sensibilities of his heart, and he came home and said, if I would re-introduce my bill he would help me to pass it. I re-introduced the bill, and with his aid got it easily passed through the House of Representatives; but it failed to pass the council. That relic of barbarism was repealed by subsequent legislation. I think that Leffler had equally as much brain power in the way of argument as Browning, but he was without any wit or capacity of repartee, whatever; and was a cool, calm, strong thinker and speaker. Nine years afterwards he was my colleague in the Congress of the United States, and I ever regarded him as an honest man. He was a strict member of the Methodist church. I visited him while he was on his dying bed, and a glow of resignation and happiness seemed to beam from his countenance, and as he extended his dying hand to me and bid me farewell, he said for his last words, "God bless you, Miller."

In the Council there was a man of remarkable character, both for the eccentricities of his mind and for his personal appearance; that was General Jesse B. Brown. He was six feet six inches in height, with high and fully developed forehead, and with piercing black eyes. He had been for some years a captain of dragoons in the regular army of the United States, and after he left the army settled at Fort Madison and engaged in the merchandise business. He had been there but a little while before he was elected a member of the Second Territorial Council of Iowa, and was there honored by being elected President of the Council. Though a man of much strength of intellect, he was subject occasionally to the infirmities of intemperance; and was presiding in the Council one day when being a little too much under the influence of liquor, he fell into a doze as he sat in his seat. There was quite an exciting discussion going on at the time, and the members perceiving the condition of their president good-naturedly went on with their speeches as if everything was right in the Council chamber. Directly one member commenced his speech with a stentorian voice, which aroused the General, and he, supposing it to be an attack of Indians, called out in military tone, "Injuns, by thunder!" That set the house laughing, and put an end to the business of the Council for that day.

He was also a member of the Third Territorial Legislature when I was, and we roomed together, though we occupied different beds. There was a fire-place in the room and each morning of the session he would get up about an hour before day and stir up the fire, put on his pantaloons and socks and slip his feet into his slippers, then wash himself and put on his necktie and comb his hair, and then would turn round and dance an Indian war dance around the floor, singing the Injun gutturals of "Oh he! Oh he! He oh! He oh!" and winding up his gymnastics with an unearthly Injun yell. He

would then finish dressing himself and take his cane and go out into the dark and wander around the streets of Burlington until daylight, when he would return to our room. I never asked him why he indulged in such eccentricities because he was a much older man than I was.

In 1851, when I was representative in Congress, I held the appointment for one of the examiners at West Point Military Academy. I gave him the benefit of that appointment, and learned afterwards, with much satisfaction, that while at West Point he conducted himself with such sobriety of conduct and military bearing that he received the special commendation of General Scott, then head of the United States army.

In 1856, burdened with the weight of years, he returned to his native home of Kentucky, and was there when the throes of the Rebellion commenced, and took a bold stand against the doctrine of secession. He died in 1863. I loved him dearly during our earthly acquaintance, and I hold his memory in high reverence.

In 1840 a colored man had no right in Iowa which a white man was bound to respect. He could not give testimony in a court of justice against a white man in a civil proceeding, and any white man could go before a justice of the peace and file an affidavit alleging that a certain colored man was his slave; and simply from that affidavit the justice was authorized by law to issue a writ to any constable to arrest the colored man and hand him over to the possession of his alleged master, not even giving the colored man the benefit of a court hearing on the question of his freedom or slavery. I introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to secure to colored men the rights of a court hearing when arrested as a slave, and in doing so I stirred up a hornet's nest of opposition all around me; but I would not yield to the clamor of friends to withdraw the bill, and I finally succeeded in forcing a vote upon it. There were three men in the House of Representatives who closed around me and stood by me and voted with me in that dilemma. They were Colonel Asbury B. Porter, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, who was a brave officer in the Union army during the late Rebellion; Peyton Wilson, a noble old Quaker of Henry county, and Thomas Wilson, a farmer of Jefferson county, who came in company with me from Pennsylvania when I first came to Iowa. These three were friends of freedom when it cost a great deal of nerve to stand up for the cause of the colored man, and to brave the prejudices and insults of the white community. With the exception of us four, the balance of the members of the House of Representatives voted against my bill and so it was defeated.

Ten years afterward I went through pretty much the same ordeal on the same subject of slavery, and stood as a Representative in Congress with only six other members, who were with me the sole advocates of the freedom of the slave, exclusively, under all circumstances and under all conditions. If it were not out of place, I would be pleased here to relate a little circumstance connected with my election to the Legislature of Iowa in 1840.

In July, 1839, I made a visit to Pennsylvania. The travel in those days to and from the west was by steamboats on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, and on my return home in the early part of December, 1839, when the steamer arrived at the foot of the rapids of the Mississippi, where the city of Keokuk now stands, the captain of the vessel informed the passengers

that the river was so low that he could not go over the rapids unless the passengers went ashore and walked around the rapids to lighten the boat, which we all readily consented to do. There were several hundred of us, and we scattered out and made our way up along on the beach of the river, and through the brush on the banks as well as we could. I was in a little crowd of four or five walking together, and when we arrived at a point on the river where the town of Galland now stands, we saw a little log cabin of round logs, standing amongst the trees, with a considerable amount of smoke coming out of a mud built chimney, attached to the building. The weather was quite cold, and we concluded to go into the building and get warmed. We knocked at the door and heard a faint voice say, "Come in." We opened the door and stepped in, and saw laying on straw on the floor, a white headed old man with his wife and several pretty well grown up children; and the only furniture in the room was a three-legged stool, near the fireplace. After we had stood some time by the fire and warmed ourselves, I turned my attention to the old man, and said to him: "Old man, when I went east last summer, there was no such poverty in Lee county as I now see before me. Where did you come from?" He replied in a feeble voice: "It was not always thus with me and my family; a few weeks ago I was living comfortably on a farm of my own near Far West, in Missouri, where a mob broke in upon me and my neighbors, killed many of my friends, and I and my family escaped by running over the prairies, my way lighted for several miles by the burning of my own home; and you see I am just here without any property, with our lives only saved."

With us standing by the fire was a man whose home was near Far West, Missouri, and who was going to Galena, Illinois, to engage in some mining business. When the old man had answered me as above stated the Missourian said, "Are you a Mormon?" The old man replied, "Yes, I belong to that persecuted race." The Missourian said, "Damn you, I wish we had caught you and had disposed of you so you could not have got out of Missouri." The brutality of the sentiment expressed by the Missourian excited my anger beyond all reason; and a scene followed between me and the Missourian which it is not necessary here to relate. Next year when I was a candidate for the Legislature of 1840 I learned that great crowds of Mormons had come into Iowa and settled in the vicinity of the said old man's home, and contiguous neighborhoods. I was living then at Ft. Madison and so I mounted my horse and concluded to ride down and see the new-comers and do some electioneering with them. When I reached the place where the old man's cabin had stood I found a log cabin village with several hundred inhabitants had suddenly sprung up. But unfortunately I had hardly arrived in the village before I was seized with a distressing ague chill. I was so sick I could not sit up, and a gentleman directed me to a house rather better than the other houses in the village, where he told me I could be accommodated. I went there, and a kindly looking, white-haired old gentleman, the proprietor of the house, took my horse from me, sent him to a stable, and invited me into his house and put me to bed. He sat by my bedside the most of the day and administered to my wants with the kindness of a father. Late in the afternoon I recovered sufficiently to start for home, but while speaking to the old man about my return I said to him: "Your face looks familiar to me, and I think I have seen you heretofore

somewhere." I then asked him: "Didn't you about a year ago live down below here in a little log cabin where some men came in to get warmed one day, and a young man there resented some severe language which a Missourian had indulged against you as a Mormon?" "Yes, I remember it well," he said, "and I and my family have expressed the wish a hundred times to have the pleasure of meeting the young stranger who thus defended us." I then said, "He is here before you." He ran out and called his wife and family and they came in and made much ado over me. When I left his house that evening and was getting on my horse to return to Fort Madison he said to me, "What brought you here?" I told him I was a candidate for the House of Representatives and was electioneering, and I gave him my name and told him I lived at Fort Madison. He replied: "Now, Mr. Miller, go straight home and don't go out electioneering any more. My people, the Mormons, hold the balance of political power in this county, and I am the uncle of Joseph Smith, the Mormon Prophet. I will go over to Nauvoo to see the Prophet and tell him what I know about you, and he will see that you get every Mormon vote in this section of the country."

I took his advice and went home, and stopped electioneering; but on the morning of the election there went the word from the Prophet at Nauvoo, Illinois, to the Mormons on the Half-Breed Tract in Lee county, Iowa, that it was wisdom and the word of the Lord that all Mormons in Lee county, Iowa, should vote for that young lawyer at Fort Madison, named Daniel F. Miller. And the result was, that on election day I received a much larger vote than was given to any other candidate, and was, of course, elected. I might have been elected to the Legislature in 1840 without the Mormon vote; but that vote made my election a certainty by a big majority, considering the number of votes polled in the county. And I found then, that whatever might be said against the Mormons in other matters, whether true or false, certainly the sin of ingratitude could not be truthfully charged against them.

D. F. MILLER.

Mr. Galland said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—While I am on the floor there is another matter I wish to refer to the committee on resolutions. Since our last meeting Rev. C. S. Percival, poet laureate and honorary member of our Association, has passed over the river. I move that this be referred to the committee on resolutions for the proper action.

The President said:

It will be so referred.

Here the choir sang "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground."

The Association then adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

Wednesday morning, January 15, 1894, the President called the Association to order, which opened with a song by the choir.

Prayer by Hon. J. F. Hopkins:

Our Father Who art in heaven, before Whom all created beings are called to bow and to pay adoration, we would desire this beautiful morning before entering upon the duties of the hour, to approach the Divine Presence, and to thank Thee for what Thou hast done for us during all the years of our lives. We thank Thee, Our Father, that Thou hast dealt so kindly with many of us in sparing our lives for the many years we have lived upon the earth. We thank Thee that we have come together under such favorable circumstances as we do this morning. We pray Thee that Thou wilt bless and direct the deliberations of this body. We pray that to Thy honor and Thy glory much good may be accomplished. We would ask Thee to bless the social features of this Association, and we thank Thee that we have the privilege of coming together and of knowing old acquaintances and of forming new ones. We pray Thee that Thou wilt bless this occasion to each and every one of us. Direct us, we pray Thee, in the deliberations of this Association, and that we may be so directed that this Association shall continue on down to become a social benefit to us all. Our Father, we pray that Thou wilt not alone bless us and all people, but as a nation, and direct us to Thy name's honor and glory. Preserve us and keep us the hollow of Thy hand, secure from danger and harm, from temptations and evil. Direct us in all of our deliberations by the unerring counsel of Thy spirit, and when we have done with life and with labors, own us in Thine upper and better Kingdom, we ask in the name of Christ. Amen.

The President said:

The first thing in order is the report of committees and miscellaneous business. Are there any committees ready to report? Any miscellaneous business?

The motion was made by Judge Noble and seconded by Col. Godfrey, that at each of the following biennial meetings of the Pioneer Law-Makers, a banquet should be held which would become a part of the program of the meeting, which motion was carried.

Judge Casady said:

The committee on nominations is ready to report.

We have agreed upon the report, and recommend the following names:

For president, Hon. Geo. G. Wright; for secretaries, Capt. C. S. Wilson and John N. Davis; for vice-presidents, first district—Edwin Manning, of Van Buren county; second district—Samuel McNutt, of Muscatine county; third district—F. M. Knoll, Dubuque county; fourth district—Reuben Noble, Clayton county; fifth district—T. S. Parvin, Linn county; sixth district—James Hilton, Monroe county; seventh district—Col. John Scott, Story county; eighth district—Lieut.-Gov. S. L. Bestow, Lucas county; ninth dis-

trict—L. W. Ross, Pottawattamie county; tenth district--Walter C. Willson, Hamilton county; eleventh district, Rodney A. Smith, Dickinson county.

The chairman said:

The next business in order is the election of officers, and I ask Judge Noble to take the chair. (Mr. Noble takes the chair.)

Mr. Abernethy said:

I move that the report of the committee be adopted.

Motion seconded and carried.

The Committee on Resolutions was called upon to report, and presented the following:

The members of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association in this their Fourth Biennial Reunion desire to place upon record their sincere regrets that so many of the members are prevented from meeting with us by reason of the infirmities of age and the severe storm that has so recently swept over the State and country. This is especially true of our associates of territorial years (1838-1846), among whom we may mention Gen. Geo. W. Jones, delegate in congress from the territory of Michigan when Iowa was attached to it (1834-1836), then of Wisconsin of which Iowa was a part in 1836-1838, and later a citizen and officer in Iowa; of Hon. Thos. S. Wilson, the oldest living attorney in Iowa (1836), and one of the judges of the territorial court (1838-1846); Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, a member of the first (1838) and several later territorial legislatures in both houses; of Hon. Alfred S. Hebbard, Red Oak, a member of the second (1839) and later years; of Hon. Samuel Murdock, Elkader, a member of the house in 1842, the first session held in Iowa City, and others. Especially do we miss the presence of Daniel F. Miller, Keokuk, a member of the present house, who commenced his legislative career as a member of the third legislature in 1840, and who now after fifty-four years have passed comes to the capital to give the State the benefit of his ripened experience and great learning. Of these men and members who helped to make Iowa, do we hold the fondest recollections and greatest esteem. In their declining years may we invoke the benediction of the Good Being who has watched over them and us and crowned our labors with such an abundant success in making our beloved Iowa the gem of the prairies and the jewel of the Mississippi valley.

WHEREAS, This Association of Pioneer Law-Makers with an earnest desire to rescue from oblivion and collect and preserve the records of the history which the members in part have been so instrumental in making in the years gone by, did most heartily endorse the paper presented by Mr. Parvin, one of its oldest members, and memorialized the General Assembly four years ago to create the Historical Department, and place it in charge of one of our members, Hon. Chas. Aldrich. And,

WHEREAS, The General Assembly did most heartily endorse and give effect thereto by proper legislation, it is both meet and proper that the Association should declare, and,

Resolve, That its high appreciation of the efficient services rendered by that and a subsequent Assembly in wisely providing so beneficent a means, and we trust this present enlightened Assembly—whose public spirit and appreciation is patent to all—will give it their fostering care; further be it

Resolved, That we recognize and appreciate the efforts and the success that has crowned so far the Historical Department.

T. S. PARVIN,

The President said:

GENTLEMEN—You have heard the resolutions, the question is upon their adoption.

They were adopted by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Galland reported a memorial resolution in regard to Rev. C. S. Percival, as follows:

IN MEMORY OF REV. C. S. PERCIVAL,

Honorary member and Poet Laureate of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association of Iowa

WHEREAS, Since our last Assembly at Des Moines in A. D. 1892, the Great and Supreme Lawmaker and Ruler of the Universe has, in the course of obedience to His natural Laws and Divine will, permitted to be removed from terrestrial life to a celestial abode beyond the grave, our venerable and much esteemed Brother, the Rev. C. S. Percival, Poet Laureate of this Association, and late Chaplain of the Iowa Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown; therefore, be it

Resolved, That by the demise of our Brother the Association has lost a most worthy and valued member; the Iowa Soldiers' Home a Chaplain and a sincere friend whose great heart was in full sympathy with the members of that institution; the Church of his belonging has lost a minister of whom it will be said by those who knew him best:

"None knew him but to love him,
None named him but to praise."

Society has lost an ornament and valued member, while literature has lost any further contributions or embellishment in poetry or prose from his inspired pen or the charming versatility of his genius; and his bereaved widow and children mourn the loss of the best of companions, the wisest of counselors and the kindest of friends. May the God of all comfort reconcile them and us to our loss, and make us all rejoice in the eternal gain of the departed one.

Resolved, That in respect to the memory of our lamented friend and Brother, these proceedings be recorded in full in our journal and published therewith, and that copies of such published journal and proceedings be transmitted to the surviving widow and children of deceased.

L. L. Ainsworth said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—I am requested by the members from outside the city of Des Moines to express to you and to the Executive Committee of the Association of Pioneer Law-Makers our thanks for the care you take for our morals when we come here. Two years ago you took us to a church, and this time to the Y. M. C. A. hall, and have kept us in that class of influences. We desire, however, to say that if your reason for doing so is because we are becoming bad you are seriously mistaken, but we hope you will continue to keep good moral places of resort for us during the entire continuance of the Association.

The Chairman said:

I think I will call upon Gen. Ed Wright to explain that. General, you know about the places of resort in the city.

Gen. Ed Wright said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—It needs no response. The gentleman knows all the places of resort in the city.

Judge Wright said:

I can assure you that we are always glad to receive you and we are all

happy to know you have reformed and that you do not need looking after. We shall continue to do as we have for we do not know what will occur hereafter. I will assure you it is a matter of great pleasure on the part of the Executive Committee and the gentlemen residing here to do all we can to make the members of our Association as comfortable as possible. We only wish we could have you here every twelve months, but we can have you only every two years, and we will try to do the best we can. Two years from this you understand, Judge Noble, there is to be no violation of the prohibitory law, and if you come here with the expectation that there will be, you will be mistaken. I understand that Judge Fairall was to have been present, but he has sent a paper. A paper was sent in by Col. Jed. Lake, which we will now have read by the Secretary.

(Paper here read.)

COL. JED LAKE'S ADDRESS.

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE PIONEER LAW-MAKERS ASSOCIATION OF IOWA—When I was asked to be present and say a little about the legislature of 1862, at this our Fourth Reunion, I little thought that I would be afflicted so as to render my presence impossible. For more than thirty years I had enjoyed such excellent health that the idea of ill health did not enter into my calculations. But like all the rest of the human family, we soon or late find out that we have to succumb to time and ill health. As such has rendered my presence impossible, it has seemed right for me to tell you a few things that I might have alluded to in case it had been practicable for me to be present.

I could have recalled how most of us, then young and inexperienced in the ways of the world, had gathered at Des Moines from all parts of the State. As there were no railroads into the Capital city at that time we came by stages and private conveyances. When we met at the Capitol and organized for the term, how there were but a few that had the necessary knowledge to lead us in the correct way to a successful organization of the House. After many blunders, and much criticism by those that knew how the thing ought to be done, we finally succeeded in electing the officers and commenced the work of the session. The votes for Governor were canvassed and the result declared. Then came the inauguration. This was not preceded by such ceremony as is now thought necessary to induct a man into the office of Governor of Iowa. We had listened to the message before this, but now came the inaugural address. The message had dealt with business matters. The inaugural was filled with patriotism. The Governor told us of the great perils of the Nation, and that it was his determination to stand by the government of the United States and to see that Iowa did its full duty in maintaining the same. Also, that no secession or rebellion would be tolerated in Iowa so far as he could prevent. These sentiments were put forth with all the earnestness of which the then Governor was capable. It filled us full by its unequivocal position in favor of the Union.

There were several incidents, some comical and amusing and some serious, that occurred during the time, many of which would be interesting to the members of that House, but which it is not worth while to write out now. One little incident, however, will be remembered by most of us as long as we live. The gentleman from F—— county was making a speech in

a very fine thin voice, but the best he could do, when the gentleman from D—— county called out: "Louder; I wish the gentleman would speak louder." With a glance at the interrupter, and without raising his voice, the gentleman from F—— said: "Mr. Speaker, I thought the gentleman's ears were long enough to hear the slightest whisper!"

The shouts of laughter and cheering that followed this sally were such that the remainder of the speech was not heard, if made. Many other things transpired that were of interest then and tended to enliven the sittings. But there was one of especial importance.

The House had before it a bill on which many of the members felt it their duty to speak. It was being warmly discussed, when Frank Palmer was seen to go up to the Speaker's desk and hand to the Speaker, Hon. Rush Clark, a telegram. Without waiting for the person to conclude his remarks the Speaker rose up and said, "General Grant has captured Fort Donelson!" Then there was shouting and hurrahing and a general rejoicing. Then some one struck up the Star Spangled Banner. It was never sung with more spirit and vim than then. Then we adjourned until the next day. Soon after the adjournment was announced Adjutant-General Baker mounted a chair in the hall and shouted as he only could: "I move that the prohibitory liquor law be suspended for twenty-four hours. All in favor say 'aye.' It is carried unanimously."

It would not be proper to relate how the time was passed the rest of that day. On the next day when some one was berating the Assembly for the acts of the day before the gentleman from C—— county arose and said: "Mr. Speaker, I want my constituents to know that I was intoxicated with *joy*!"

There are many other things that I would like to mention about the members and the incidents of the session. But it would take too much time to do it justice. I would like to dwell upon some of the individuals if it was proper to do so. But I must let that pass now.

At the extra session held in August, provision was made to put the Iowa troops in the field and to pay the expenses that had been made and to take the vote of the soldiers in the field. This was a session of business. When it adjourned so many of the members of the Senate and House had enlisted in the army that there were not enough members left to make a quorum if the Governor had desired to have another extra session. It would be pleasant to speak of the achievements of some of these men in the army. But that is outside of their work as law-makers and it is not best to do so now. I very much regret, Mr. President and gentlemen, that I cannot be with you, but such are the circumstances surrounding me now that it is not possible to do so. Hoping that you will all have a good time and be much pleased with the meeting, I am

Fraternally yours.

JED LAKE.

Col. Alonzo Abernethy then read the following paper on

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Soon after the return of the last remnant of Iowa's eighty thousand volunteer soldiers from the civil war, the Eleventh General Assembly convened January 8, 1866, in the old capitol, to confront some legislative problems, as the Twenty-fifth is now doing in the new capitol.

If by chance one of these earlier members had not meantime found occasion to revisit Des Moines until now, he might possibly have occasion to inquire of somebody where he was at. Instead of coming in from any direction for the last thirty-five miles, at least, on the old-time stage coach, he may now enter from every direction on an elegantly upholstered passenger coach. Instead of coming to a town of six thousand people, he enters a city of over sixty thousand. Instead of a State with eight hundred miles of railroad, he now finds one with about nine thousand miles. Instead of helping to inaugurate Gov. Wm. M. Stone, who had been elected by a meagre seventy thousand votes, he finds that another body has just inaugurated Gov. Frank D. Jackson, who had received the suffrages of more than two hundred and six thousand Iowa freemen.

ORGANIZING THE HOUSE.

The members addressed themselves at once to business. The House was fully organized before the close of the first full day's session. This included the election of both temporary and permanent Speaker, the election of all other officers, and the adoption of its standing rules.

DEMOCRATS SCARCE.

As our Democratic friends in those days of small beginnings, could muster all told but fourteen votes in the House, the main battle had to be among Republicans themselves, and by common consent soon narrowed down to a choice between that astute embodiment of legal lore, C. Ben. Darwin, of Burlington, and the plain farmer-soldier, Gen. Ed Wright. At first the honors seemed tending toward the great lawyer, but when it was discovered that forty-three of the one hundred members had recently doffed the blue uniform, there was a sudden rallying to the standard of the tall form of the gallant General. Though the eloquence of his accepting speech was condensed into five short sentences, he was easily voted, before the end of the session, the best Speaker Iowa ever had. Indeed, Iowa has needed his services for about twenty-five of the intervening twenty-eight years, and the greater portion of these years are engraved in her magnificent capitol.

The genial and courteous Wm. Hale served as temporary Speaker. This cultivated, strong man, after honoring the State and Nation by years of faithful service, has long since finished his labors. Chas. Aldrich, the popular Chief Clerk, has given generous service, both public and private, in promoting some of the highest interests of the commonwealth, as has also C. S. Wilson, his efficient first assistant.

CONTEST OVER THE RULES.

Apparently but one man in that venerable body, adequately appreciated the importance of properly amended parliamentary rules for the government of the House; and that man was honest John Russell, of Jones. When the eloquent Samuel McNutt, of Muscatine, promptly moved before noon of the second day, that the rules of the last House be adopted as the standing rules of the House, and Mr. Russell moved, as a substitute, the appointment of a committee to prepare a code of permanent rules, the substitute was relentlessly voted down. In this first picket line skirmish, the eloquent Irishman easily carried the House against the more philosophic and prophetic Scotchman.

When some one immediately afterwards moved that R. S. Finkbine be employed to make a diagram of the House for the use of the Speaker, the motion was promptly voted down, showing how little the members appreciated the æsthetic genius of a fellow member afterwards so conspicuously inscribed in every part of the noble structure of which all Iowa is so justly proud.

When next day Mr. Finkbine, who was an old member, moved (doubtless from sheer force of habit) that each member be furnished a good knife, Major Hoyt Sherman, who was possibly expecting to be made chairman of the committee on ways and means, moved to amend by adding the words, "at a cost not exceeding \$2," and another needy member moved to amend the amendment by adding "and a good shaving kit, comprising razor, soap, lather-box and brush," and still another to add, after the words "knife," and "sheep-shears," by which time the House became so thoroughly scared at the numerous wants displayed, that the whole thing was unceremoniously tabled. But for all that, each member received his little gold pen, pen-knife and eraser, and by a later order, all officers and employés of the House also were furnished with knives, "at a cost not exceeding \$2.00."

DISSEMINATING INTELLIGENCE.

Another one of our preliminary problems to be settled, was the number of daily papers that should be ordered by the House for each member. After several motions and amendments made to limit the orders to "papers published in the State," to "loyal papers," and the number to "twenty," "twenty-five," and "thirty" dailies, or their equivalent in weeklies, it was finally decided that each member should have thirty dailies, and that members be allowed to select three published outside the State. As a matter of fact there were just twelve daily papers published in the State at that time.

When a little later provision was made for distributing to members copies of all Supreme Court Reports "now on hand" or "to be published during the present term," one of the thoughtful members from Lee, Mr. Ballinger, offered a resolution, that doorkeepers should also be included in the distribution of Supreme Court Reports, but this generous Democratic impulse for disseminating intelligence, met with no favor and was ruthlessly voted down.

SIZE OF IOWA IN 1866.

If the friends of Governor Jackson have been able to count him in by a larger vote than his illustrious predecessor received, twenty-eight years earlier, it is doubtful if their committee on mileage can make a much larger showing than our committee did at that time. We all stood up in our places, as our names were called, and bore testimony to the magnificent proportions of our beloved State, "by the usually traveled route." My distinguished friend, Judge Fellows and his colleague from Allamakee were entitled by the committee's report to mileage for nine hundred miles travel to Des Moines and back. It was generally supposed in those days that Winneshiek county was about the same distance from the Capital "by the usually traveled route," and accordingly its representatives were allowed mileage for nine hundred miles each. The senior member from Fayette in whose superior wisdom, the junior meekly acquiesced, had to be satisfied with seven hundred and seventy-five miles mileage. Let them beat that if

they can, even if they should compute the usually traveled route now, as occasionally then, by way of Chicago.

IOWA ABOLISHING SLAVERY.

The first public act of the Eleventh General Assembly was the unanimous ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, forever abolishing slavery. Care was taken that this solemn act of the representatives of the people of Iowa, should be done in a sufficiently formal manner to carefully perpetuate, at the same time, the act itself, and the names of those whose high privilege it was to record their votes in favor of its adoption.

HANGING JEFF. DAVIS.

Another burning question before the country, demanding immediate attention, was the importance of promptly hanging Jeff. Davis for treason. Accordingly Col. Sapp, of Pottawattamie, who was a natural leader and great debater, introduced a resolution, "That the arch traitor, Jefferson Davis, ex-president of the so-called Southern Confederacy, is guilty of the highest crime known to the constitution, and it is due, both to the living and the dead, that he should expiate his crimes on the scaffold." Being introduced by so great a radical as Col. Sapp, some of our Democratic friends felt a suspicion that a little politics lurked in the resolution, and made a feeble attempt to modify it, but without avail, for it went through by eighty-nine yeas, with only seven nays.

DEMOCRATIC RECONSTRUCTION.

Thereupon, Mr. T. S. Wilson, of Dubuque, the veteran Democratic Constitutional lawyer of the House, doubtless feeling keenly the lack of conservatism exhibited by the last violent action, arose in his place, and proposed a rather lengthy preamble and resolution, the pith of which may be stated: "Whereas, no state can constitutionally secede, and all acts of secession are null and void from the beginning, that none of the states lately in rebellion has ever been out of the Union; therefore, *Resolved*, That we condemn the doctrine of State suicide, and the reduction of any State to Territorial vassalage." But Col. Sapp, the wily chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations, immediately gobbled the resolution, and took care that nothing was ever heard of it thereafter.

ELECTING UNITED STATES SENATORS.

Senator James Harlan having recently resigned to enter President Lincoln's cabinet, leaving Iowa's great statesman, James W. Grimes, alone in the United States Senate, two senators must be elected, one for the short and one for the long term. However rich the soil of Iowa may have been in those earlier days, its crop of senatorial timber was not nearly equal to that of more recent times, as two men only, in all the State, aspired to those lofty honors. After a brief but spirited contest between those two princely men, Ex-Governor Kirkwood was chosen for the short term and Ex-Senator James Harlan for the succeeding long term. And the verdict of the State and country was that the Iowa Legislature had done its duty well. Messrs. John T. Stoneman and H. T. Trimble were the Democratic candidates for those offices. The vote stood one hundred and eighteen to twenty. These two men, also, had they been elected, would have honored the State.

ERASING THE COLOR LINE.

Long before January, 1866, the people of Iowa had made up their minds that the colored people had earned the right, all over the south and on many of its battle fields, to the elective franchise. But the constitution of Iowa made color a bar to its exercise. The word "white" was found on examination, to be inserted in six different places in the constitution disqualifying colored people from voting, holding office and the like. When the astute committee on constitutional amendments had taken sufficient time for due deliberation they reported a resolution to strike out the word "white" from five of the six places.

Some members believed it would be more than a shame for the Iowa Legislature of 1866 to leave the word "white" even once as a blot on the constitution; and that one, too, where it barred the colored citizen from holding the one office of State Representative alone, though not that of Governor, United States or State Senator, nor indeed any other office or privilege, with the single exception named. One of the sharpest battles of the session was fought over this simple question of principle against policy; and under the zealous leadership of Mr. Darwin, chairman of the judiciary committee, policy finally prevailed over principle, and for more than twenty years longer the word "white" must needs blot the constitution of Iowa, notwithstanding the Fourteenth amendment, which declares that "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

THEN AND NOW.

One need not, in this year of grace 1894, turn many pages of the House Journal of 1866 to be reminded that the world does move. Let me recite an illustration or two.

Claims were introduced and allowed for lumber furnished and used in the building of military stockades of Estherville and Spirit Lake, Iowa, to provide against Indian depredations from the western plains. Maj. Gen. G. M. Dodge received the thanks of the General Assembly for his efficient management in protecting the western borders of Iowa and the great overland routes across the plains from the incursions and depredations of hostile Indians. The Secretary of the Interior was urgently solicited to make immediate provision to abate the insufferable evils caused by Omaha and Winnebago Indians in their thieving incursions into the "thinly settled portions" of northwestern Iowa. A resolution was presented by Mr. Bennett, of Washington, that "Whereas the occupation of Mexico by the forces of the Emperor of the French, and the attempted organization of the imperial government of Maximilian are absolutely subversive of republicanism in that country, and in hostile violation of the well-defined policy of this government; therefore, Resolved, that we enter our solemn protest against any interference by foreign powers in the affairs of the Republic of Mexico; and the exercise of imperial power over that country by Maximilian is but the deliberate murder of a nation and the basest act of usurpation."

DES MOINES RIVER NO LONGER NAVIGABLE.

One or two of the problems which the Eleventh General Assembly had to solve illustrates, at least to us at this distance, what marked *physical changes* Iowa has undergone under the hand of civilization. Up to that

time, 1866, the Des Moines river was a legally recognized navigable stream, across which no dam or bridge could be built which would tend to obstruct its free navigation by legally chartered river steamboats. But finally the time had fully come when those ambitious Des Moines river cities in embryo must succumb to the inevitable and surrender for good the great privilege of holding direct water communication and commerce with the outer world. Such was the nature of the law passed at this session, repealing all the laws requiring locks to be constructed in dams and draws to be constructed in bridges across the Des Moines river. Turkey river was also declared to be no longer navigable "from the town of Eldorado in Fayette county, up to which the said river is now navigable."

THE IOWA LEGISLATURE IMPROVING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

There was at least one commendable trait of the Eleventh General Assembly; it did not hesitate to undertake any enterprise, from that of drying up the channel of the Des Moines river to dredging out that of the Mississippi. On the 7th of February the legislature received an invitation from the Board of Produce Exchange of the city of Dubuque to visit that metropolis and attend a convention on the 14th to consider the subject of improving the rapids of the Mississippi river. The gentleman from Buchanan, Mr. Wilcox, had a resolution all drawn up in form: "That this assembly accepts the invitation to consider the subject of the improvement of the Mississippi river." The resolution was at once and unanimously adopted; not even Mr. Barker or Mr. Wilson, who could generally be relied on to protest against Republican extravagance and foolishness in any form, interposed an objection.

The question of going to Dubuque, however, was not, after all, to be settled without spending a few hours of valuable legislative time in settling questions of detail. The gentleman from Polk thought the 12th would be about the right date, but the yeas and nays being demanded that date was voted down. The gentleman from Linn moved to lay the trip to Dubuque on the table, and on that question demanded the yeas and nays; but the motion did not prevail. Another roll-call on fixing the 10th proved more satisfactory. The economic member from Black Hawk moved to amend by adding: "Provided, That there shall be no expense incurred to the State, either as per diem, or traveling, or for postage." He had probably figured out carefully how much postage it would cost to go to Dubuque. But a call of the roll proved that this was not a "reform" legislature, and so the amendment did not prevail.

The "fernensters," however, were not yet quite ready to surrender, and so another moved, "That no member shall be regarded as under any moral or pecuniary obligation to draw his per diem or postage for the time of such absence." On another roll call this final effort was crowned with victory, forty-six voting to release over-scrupulous members from the obligation to draw postage, while but thirty-five voted in the negative.

On Monday (the 12th) a special train was sent down to Nevada, the nearest railroad station to Des Moines, and carried the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, or what was left of it, to Dubuque just in time to escape a terrific snow storm. The railroad blockade was found to be so formidable as to cut off their line of retreat. After waiting in Dubuque until the sup-

ply of roast turkey and chicken salad was getting distressingly low they executed a brilliant flank movement around through Illinois, and by way of Davenport and Iowa City to the end of the Rock Island railroad at Newton, I think, whence the old stage coach brought them again safely to Des Moines.

One luckless member went down the Saturday before to spend Sunday with his old Greek professor at the State University, and Monday morning took the regulation stage coach of the day intending to intercept the legislative caravan at Cedar Rapids. But the easy going custodian of Uncle Sam's mail did not reach the city, twenty-eight miles distant, Monday night until the train had been gone half an hour up the Dubuque & Southwestern toward Farley. By noon of the next day the train on which he was seeking to follow found itself so completely blockaded at Anamosa as to be neither able to go forward or backward and began to prepare to go into winter quarters. A day or two later, when the storm had abated, a livery brought him, together with two other travelers, back to Cedar Rapids whence he returned by next train and coach to Des Moines.

If any future legislator should chance to recall the incident of this legislative junketing trip he should be careful not to lose sight of the fact that it was made "for the purpose of improving the Mississippi river."

ADOPTING SOLDIERS' ORPHANS.

Another important question was, how to take care of Iowa's soldiers' orphan children. No one questioned the duty, and no one knew how it ought to be performed. Already five hundred destitute little waifs had been gathered into two hastily improvised homes, at Davenport and Cedar Falls, and were being fed, clothed and taught by private charity. After a good deal of discussion and some needless crimination, the legislature wisely decided to adopt and maintain the two Orphan's Homes, and so adopt and tenderly care for all the children of the slain soldiers who might need such homes.

TO PREVENT SUCKERS, BORDER RUFFIANS AND JAYHAWKERS FROM VOTING IN IOWA.

A crying evil that was never heard so loudly before nor since, as in the years immediately succeeding the war, was the evil of illegal voting by non-residents. The greatest complaints and charges came from the large cities and border towns of the state. No doubt there was considerable illegal voting. It was not so much an importation of paid vote, as practiced in later years, as it was a voluntary rallying of party friends to lend a helping hand to friends in need.

Both parties made serious charges, and yet the leaders of both were loth to attempt registration restrictions for fear of popular disfavor. However, the committee on Elections in the House, recommended a bill for a registry law, which finally passed the House by a large vote; though it was afterward smothered in the Senate by a handful of spectaclled invertebrates. Two years later the same bill in substance was passed, cured the evil and was then repealed. Was again reinacted in a modified form some years later and again cured the evil; was once more repealed.

A LITTLE SPICE.

No legislature of which "Bob" Finkbine was a member, could very wel.

get through a session without having a little spice interspersed here and there, in the daily routine of business. As chairman of the committee on ways and means it was his official duty to submit a good many "reports" to the House. Here is a sample:

"The committee on ways and means to whom was referred the petition of John Clayton, of Dallas County, have had the same under careful consideration and have instructed me to report that they have given the subject their best attention, and have unanimously concluded that the petitioner could never have been a member of the popular branch of this General Assembly, for if so, he would not have fallen into the mistaken idea that the members thereof needed watching. Your committee fully concur in the prayer of the petitioner, that this General Assembly should do something for the sake of suffering humanity generally, and the petitioner particularly, to lighten the burdens of taxation. To accomplish this end, we are assured by the petitioner that 'he will ever pray,' and we recommend that he do so 'without ceasing.' There is one positive declaration in the petition which suggests itself to the minds of the committee, as being strictly true and particularly applicable to the members of this General Assembly; it is, 'that this thing of working two hours a day don't pay,' and we submit this part of the petition to the careful consideration of the House, trusting that in its wisdom it may devise some means to make it pay. We are confident that, could the petitioner witness the earnest zeal, untiring energy and unyielding perseverance displayed by members of this House in their honest and industrious efforts to regulate everything, from the laying out of a township road to reconstructing the general government, he would admit it unnecessary to pray for 'working members.' We recommend, however, taking all the circumstances into consideration, that the prayer of the petitioner be granted."

FINKBINE, *Chairman.*

BEGINNING THE BATTLES WITH CORPORATIONS.

One more problem of 1866 I will mention and desist. I allude to it chiefly to show when and where the great contest for supremacy between the people of this country and the railroad corporations began: That it was an Iowa Legislature, elected when Iowa soldiers were marching home, in the flush of victory, from the great war, that they had the nerve, and the courage, and the long-range view to snuff another battle in the distance, and *to begin to form the line to face it.*

Very early in the session, Major Clark, of Tama, offered a resolution, "That the Attorney General be requested to communicate to this House, at as early a day as practicable, his opinion, whether or not, the General Assembly has the power to restrict and regulate the tariff and prices for passage and freights over the several railroads in this state." Ten days later an elaborate answer came from this illustrious dignitary, which after learnedly discussing irrelevant questions, and citing a formidable list of precedents and authorities beginning with the convenient Dartmouth College case, and passing down the whole vista of recent history, finally summed up: "The conclusion to which I have arrived is, that the General Assembly has no power to restrict and regulate the tariff of prices for passage and freight over the several railroads of the state."

In the face of this Johnstown flood of legal lore and official opinion, the House pushed stubbornly forward, and two months later, rashly passed an act by a vote of 69 to 9, unmistakably indicating their purpose both to restrict and to regulate railroad corporations.

As an incident worthy of mention in connection with these early efforts to assert and exercise legislative control of corporations, I add the following:

The opinion of Attorney-General Bissell was a great disappointment to those of the General Assembly who believed that the legislature had the

right to control the railroad corporations and limit and regulate their charges for freight and passage. Among this number was W. T. Barker, an eminent lawyer of that time, also Representative from Dubuque. Mr. Barker prepared a reply to Mr. Bissell's opinion, which he delivered in the House in the discussion of a resolution upon the subject. The reading of this elaborate paper made such an impression that immediately on its conclusion, Mr. McNutt, of Muscatine, moved that three thousand copies of Mr. Barker's speech be printed for the use of the members. This motion could not be entertained while the resolution was pending without unanimous consent. Such having been given, it was adopted by a unanimous vote, which action of the House is without a parallel in the history of Iowa legislation.

THEIR LAST ROLL-CALL.

Of the one hundred members elected to this House, two had completed their labors before the end of the session—Hon. D. A. Stockton of Keokuk county, and Hon. N. T. Brown of Louisa. Both were young men. The record says, of the first: "Mr. Stockton has fallen a victim to the rebellion, and sacrificed his life on the altar of his country for his country's good. It was in the field and camp that his naturally robust constitution was broken—and there he contracted that disease which terminated his life. He was a young man, in the prime of life and in the full vigor of manhood, and has left a wife and three children to mourn his untimely death. He was a kind and loving husband, and a considerate and indulgent father."

Of the second: "Less than two weeks have elapsed since a stranger looking at this body of men would have pointed out Hon. N. T. Brown as one likely to outlive the majority of us. Some ten days previous to his death, while sitting at his desk, now vacant before you, he felt so sick and chilly, of what he supposed to be only a bad cold, that he was compelled to leave this hall, and repair to his room; from that room he never returned. His wife and son arrived several days before his death, and watched by his bedside till the last sad hour. He was but a little over forty-six years of age. I state but a simple truth in saying that as a husband, a father, a devoted Christian, and an estimable neighbor, no man stood higher among those who knew him. He was known as that noblest work of God, '*an honest man*.' The people of Louisa county loved plain Farmer Brown for his goodness, they honored him for his virtues, and they trusted him for his integrity; and their love, their honor, and their trust were all well placed."

Among the members of this General Assembly which showed so little respect for authority or precedent, a long list might be named who have since also, as well as in the Eleventh General Assembly, done notable public and private service in the State and Nation.

There were Maj. Farwell, Gov. Walden, Senator Oliver and Judge Reed, who afterward represented Iowa in Congress.

There were Henderson, of Marshall, McKean, of Jones, and Fellows, of Allamakee, who have been placed on the bench.

There were Russell and Wright, Cattell and Cutts, and Finkbine and Linderman, and Stiles, who have later served as State officers.

Some have won distinction as journalists, among them I recall Gov. Benj. F. Gue, Coker F. Clarkson, L. D. Tracy and D. G. Goodrich.

There were financiers in Hoyt Sherman, G. W. Bassett, John Meyer and L. Dwelle.

And there was a long list of men who have made records in the legal profession, among them Gen. Glasgow, Cols. Sapp and Godfrey, Joy and Rogers, Leake and Ross, Richards and Bolter, and Wilson and Barker of Dubuque, Patterson and Powers, Lawson and Woolson.

THE SENATE.

We, who were younger, of the House, sometimes ventured over into the Senate Chamber to witness its dignified proceedings, under the unassuming leadership of Lieut. Gov. Gue, to study the venerable faces and listen to the wisdom of the dignified Senators.

Conspicuous among them we now recall Gen. Fitz Henry Warren, with stately form, polished mein and silver tongue, and C. F. Clarkson, whose stern countenance, powerful frame and contempt of sham made him the terror of all demagogues. There were Theron D. Woolson and John A. Parvin, H. C. Henderson and Ezeikel Clark, whom nature had made conspicuous figures among any body of men. But many, many recollections of that interesting session crowd upon the memory for which there is no longer room for utterance.

Judge P. M. Casady read the following paper on the

ORGANIZATION AND NAMING OF IOWA COUNTIES.

In 1834 the territory west of the Mississippi river was attached to Michigan Territory. In the acts of the Territorial Legislature we find the following:

AN ACT to lay off and organize counties west of the Mississippi river.

SECTION 1. All that part of the district which is situated north of a line to be drawn due west from the lower end of Rock Island to the Missouri river, shall constitute a county and be called Dubuque.

SEC. 2. All that part of the district which is situated south of the said line to be drawn west from the lower end of Rock Island, shall constitute a county and be called Des Moines.

This act was approved September 6, 1834.

The territory included in the boundaries of the county of Dubuque contained all of the northern half of the present State of Iowa, all of the State of Minnesota west of the Mississippi river, and all the territory of the States of Dakota east of the Missouri river, being the largest territory ever included in the boundaries of one county.

The county of Des Moines included all of the territory of the south half of the present State of Iowa. The same territory now includes forty-four organized counties.

The members of the Territorial legislature of Michigan, in session in the city of Detroit, I presume did not think it would be necessary to name and define the boundaries of any other counties west of the Mississippi river for many years to come, as at the time it was supposed and generally believed that the Great American Desert included the greater part of the country and would not and could not be successfully cultivated during the present century.

At the first session of the Wisconsin Territorial Legislature, held at the town of Belmont, the large territory of Des Moines county was divided as follows, to-wit: Lee, Van Buren, Henry, Louisa, Musquitine and Cook. The act was approved December 7, 1836.

The next session of the Wisconsin Territorial Legislature was held at Burlington in 1837. The county of Cook became extinct, and the following counties were created and taken from the original county of Dubuque, to-wit: Scott, Clinton, Jackson, Clayton and Delaware.

What called my attention to the necessity of having a number of new counties named and boundaries defined, was a map-seller offering maps for sale showing the boundaries of the fifty counties named and organized on the map, and all the balance of the State *an entire blank*, the territory lying in the west and northwest part of the State being the part not laid off in counties.

December 10, 1850, being the eighth day of the General Assembly which commenced at Iowa City on the 2d day of December, 1850, the Senate Journal states that "Mr. Casady gave notice that he would, on to-morrow "or some future day. introduce a bill for an act defining the boundaries of "twenty-five new counties."

On the 11th day of December the Journal states that "Mr. Casady, in "pursuance of notice, introduced Senate File No. 5, a bill for an act to "establish new counties and define their boundaries, which was read a first "and second time and on his motion referred to the Committee on New "Counties."

The Committee on New Counties consisted of Messrs. Hendershott, Cook, Alger, Lewis and Casady. On December 16th, Mr. Hendershott, chairman of the Committee on New Counties, to which was referred Senate File No. 5, reported a substitute therefor. On the same day Senate File No. 5 was read a second time. Mr. Espy moved to lay the bill on the table, which motion was disagreed to.

On motion of Mr. Casady, the Senate resolved itself into committee of the whole for the consideration of the bill, Mr. Leffingwell in the chair. After some time spent therein, the committee rose and by their chairman reported the same back to the Senate with one amendment and asked leave to sit again on Saturday next at two o'clock P. M., which leave was granted.

On the 21st of December the bill was read a third time, passed, and title agreed to. Prior to the passage of the bill, Mr. Morton, "with the unanimous consent of the Senate," moved to strike out the name of "Mason" in the first section and insert the word "Union," which was carried.

On January 2d, 1851, the bill was returned from the House with sundry amendments. The Senate disagreed to the amendments made to the bill by the House. The House refused to recede from its amendments to Senate File No. 5, and asked a conference thereon, Messrs. Summers, Allender and Crawford having been appointed managers to conduct said conference on the part of the House. The president appointed Messrs. Casady, Everson and Lowe, a committee to manage a conference on the disagreeing vote of the two houses on "Senate File No. 5, a bill for an act to establish new counties and define their boundaries."

The committee was called together as soon as practicable. Messrs. Everson and Lowe, two of the managers on the part of the Senate, refused to attend, stating they had given the matter but little attention and that they could not aid in the conference. The managers on the part of the House attended, Messrs. Summers, Allender and Crawford. The report of the conference committee was soon agreed to except as to the name of Bun

combe. The managers on the part of the House said the members were opposed to the name; but after the statement was made that the name was suggested in honor of Col. Buncombe, a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and that North Carolina had named one county Buncombe, the only one in the United States; that the county was the most elevated one in the State; that it would be appropriate to name the northern part of Iowa, Buncombe, being the most elevated part of the State of Iowa; the managers yielded, the report was agreed to, written out and submitted to the respective houses and adopted January 6, 1851.

The reason of the change of the name of "Mason" in the first section of the bill, which name had been placed there in honor of Charles Mason, formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory, and at that time the principal Code Commissioner, was that it would be considered an injustice to other men occupying prominent positions in the State about the age of Mason—such as Governor Hempstead, Senators A. C. Dodge and George W. Jones, James W. Grimes, Henry W. Starr, and others. The name of "Union" being suggested by Senator Morton, senator from Henry county, met with the approval of the senators. Judge Mason was deservedly popular, but for the reason stated the name was dropped.

FLOYD COUNTY.

The county of Floyd was named in honor of William Floyd, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, a delegate from New York, and the first name mentioned in the delegation from that State.

In the original bill introduced, the name "Floyd" was suggested in honor of Sergeant Floyd, who was a member of the Lewis and Clarke expedition, died in camp and was buried on the east bank of the Missouri river south of Sioux City. At his grave was a cedar post with a cross placed. The remains and post were removed after the settlement was made at Sioux City in order to keep the post from falling into the river. At the time, the river emptying into the Missouri river at Sioux City was named Floyd river, to commemorate the sad death of Sergeant Floyd. The proposed county had the same boundaries of the present county of Woodbury. The House amended the bill by striking Floyd out and inserting Waukon. This name was retained to please the members who wanted a few Indian names.

The reason said to be for a committee of the whole Senate, was to give the members an opportunity to suggest names. When the committee was ready for business I remarked to the chairman that I had a list of Indian names, some of which might meet the approval of senators. He replied, "Read the names." The first name read was "O-wer-chooney-winker." The name had to be read a second time before the members of the committee could understand. The chairman asked what did the name mean? He was informed that it meant a beautiful prairie flower. A number of other names were read, but none seemed to meet the views of those who desired Indian names. The committee, after spending a short time, and after suggesting an immaterial amendment, rose and asked leave to sit again.

WRIGHT COUNTY.

The county of Wright was named in honor of Joseph A. Wright, then Governor of the State of Indiana, one of the most popular men in the State

at that time. He served the State as Governor seven years, a longer time than any other man. The last time he was elected Governor, I believe he ran about twenty thousand ahead of his party.

Two members of the Committee on New Counties were former residents of the State of Indiana, to-wit: Senator Freeman Alger and myself, and all were of the same political faith of Governor Wright except Senator John P. Cook. While the bill was pending before the Senate, Senator W. E. Leffingwell moved to strike out the name of Wright, stating that the name had been suggested in honor of Senator George G. Wright, that he was a young man and we did not know what he might be guilty of. One Senator suggested that it was named for Silas Wright of New York; a member of the committee stated that the county was named for Governor Joseph A. Wright of Indiana. He then remarked that he would withdraw his motion; that he understood the county would not be settled for fifty years.

Senator Leffingwell was regarded as the leader on the Democratic side and Senator Wright was the actual leader on the Whig side and so recognized by all the members. At the time Leffingwell made the motion to strike out the name of Wright, Senator Wright seemed to be unable to reply to him, notwithstanding he was generally ready and apt at repartee. He was confused for the time being.

It was determined by Dr. Clark (then a resident of Andrew, Jackson county), Andrew J. Stevens (a citizen of Fort Des Moines), and myself to recommend that three names should be given of three colonels who fell at the battle of Buena Vista. The names selected were as follows, to-wit: Col. John J. Hardin, of Illinois; Col. Yell, of Arkansas, and Lieutenant-Col. Henry Clay, Jr., of Kentucky, the talented son of Henry Clay. Three battle places should be commemorated by the names of counties—Cerro Gordo, Buena Vista and Palo Alto. Three names we deemed proper to give to the Irish patriots, Mitchell, O'Brien and Emmet. Also the following names should be honored: Major Frederick Mills, who was a leading lawyer of the city of Burlington, member of the law firm of Mills & Stockton before he was commissioned. He fell at the battle of Cherubusco, near the City of Mexico. It is said that the spirited animal he was riding got the advantage of him, ran with him, leaped the ditch and into the ranks of the Mexican army where he was killed. Our worthy and genial member of this Association, Capt. I. W. Griffith, a member of Capt. Guthrie's company in the battalion commanded by Major Mills, was in the battle of Cherubusco and has a vivid remembrance of that engagement.

Capt. Edwin Guthrie, an early pioneer of the Territory of Iowa, was a resident of Fort Madison before his appointment as captain of the only company enlisted in Iowa Territory for service in the war. He was a whig in politics, had served as warden of the penitentiary, had been frequently spoken of as a suitable man to represent Lee county in the Legislature. He died from wounds received in Mexico before the close of the war.

General William O. Butler, a distinguished citizen of Kentucky, who was a major-general of volunteers in the war with Mexico, and in 1848 a candidate for Vice-President on the Democratic ticket.

William J. Worth, a major general who distinguished himself in that war. He died at San Antonio in 1849 while he was in command of the United States Army in the Department of the Southwest.

Harrison was named after General William Henry Harrison, the first Governor of Indiana Territory, who served in that position until he was appointed by President Madison Major General of the Northwestern Army, and the ninth President of the United States. Ex-President Harrison is his grandson, and is great grandson of Benjamin Harrison of Virginia, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and twice Governor of the State, and who held many other offices in the Old Dominion.

The territorial legislative assemblies failed to honor the distinguished names of Adams and Harrison, the first having had two honored Presidents of the United States prior to 1851, and the latter one President and since that time another, Ex-President Benjamin Harrison. Also the name of Franklin had not been honored,—the statesman and philosopher of Revolutionary times, and whose name has been honored more than any other by the names of counties, cities and townships, he having 63; Jackson comes next with 61; Washington third with 49; Jefferson, 47; Madison, 44; Monroe, 43; Garfield, 24.

Buncombe retained the name from 1857 until after the battle of Wilson Creek in Missouri. In this battle the First Iowa Volunteers were engaged and it was the first battle in which the Iowa troops were under fire. Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon was in command, and was killed in the battle. Lieutenant Col. Merritt of the First Iowa distinguished himself in this battle, being in command of the Union forces after the fall of General Lyon. The General Assembly, wishing to honor General Lyon, looked over the counties for the purpose of seeing what one might be stricken out, and still having some prejudice against the name of Buncombe, decided that Lyon should take the place of that name in the list of counties.

Hardin county was named in honor of Col. John H. Hardin who fell at the battle of Buena Vista during the Mexican War. Hardin belonged to the distinguished Kentucky family of that name, and came from his native State when young, settling in the new State of Illinois. He was a member of Congress from that State in 1844. He made a campaign speech advocating the election of Henry Clay for the presidency; this speech was distributed generally throughout the country, particularly in the West.

Audubon county was named in honor of the ornithologist and naturalist, John James Audubon, who died in New York City, January 27, 1851, a few days after the passage of the bill. Audubon visited the Republic of Texas in 1837 and called on the president, General Sam Houston. He found the capitol building without a roof, the president's house consisted of two rooms made of logs. The cabinet treated him very civilly, invited him to a grog-shop where he and they drank grog; afterwards the president and he took a drink of grog together. The capital was then at the village of Houston and a very uninviting place.

Bremer county, named in honor of Fredericka Bremer, the Swedish traveler and author, was the second county named in honor of a woman; Louisa being the first, named in honor of Louisa Massey, a lady of Dubuque who a short time before the passage of the act creating the county had shot a ruffian who had threatened the life of her brother. She was a heroine, and among the early pioneers heroes and heroines were highly respected and honored whenever an opportunity was presented. The name Bremer was suggested by Hon. A. K. Eaton, then a member of Delaware and other

counties, now a resident of Osage, Mitchell county. Mr. Eaton at the last meeting of our society delivered an able address on "Recollections of the Third General Assembly," particularly the part the House took in that session.

I am of the opinion that the societies managed and controlled by the women should give the early Pioneer Law-makers some recognition and credit for honoring two of their number in such a manner.

Kossuth county was named in honor of the Hungarian patriot and leader, who was then making a tour of the United States. When he visited St. Louis, Missouri, Hon. John A. Kasson, then a resident of that city, made the welcoming speech to him on behalf of the city. For about a quarter of a century Kossuth has resided in Turin, Italy. A few years since a delegation from Hungary visited him at his residence and presented him with a box of *dirt*, taken from his birth-place, and in their remarks, among other things, said to him: "You have refused to visit Hungary; we now bring a part of Hungary to you "

At the request of Charles Aldrich, Curator, some two years since, Miss Anna Ruttkay, a resident of this city, wrote to her grandmother, Madame Ruttkay, sister of General Kossuth, requesting her to obtain the autograph of her distinguished brother for the Aldrich Collection, which request was granted. The same can now be seen in the Collection in the Capitol, in the rooms set apart for that purpose.

The President announced:

The next thing in order is the hearing of the address of Hon. Chas. Beardsley.

Governor Gue said:

Dr. Beardsley is not able to be here, and the address will be read by the Secretary.

The address of Hon. Chas. Beardsley was read by the Secretary, as follows:

THE THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE STATE OF IOWA.

In attempting to give some account of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies of the State of Iowa. I shall confine myself mainly, as to personal matters, to the Senate of the two bodies, and more particularly to that of the Thirteenth, which I entered at the beginning, January 10, 1870, as the Senator from Des Moines county. Prior to 1860 Des Moines county was entitled to two Senators; since that date to only one.

My predecessors in office were Milton D. Browning, Samuel Fullenwider, Alfred S. Fear, George Hepner, Enos Lowe, W. F. Coolbaugh, Lyman Cook, John G. Foote, Fitz Henry Warren, and Charles L. Matthies. Browning and Coolbaugh served two terms of four years each, and the others one term each with the exception of Warren and Matthies, who together served but a single term. They were all men of ability, of good reputation, and well known in their day.

THE REAL PIONEERS.

Mr. Browning was an able lawyer and a prominent member of that remarkable group of men who were living in Burlington, Des Moines county, in 1838, when the Territory of Iowa was organized. It included James W. Grimes, Henry W. Starr, Charles Mason, A. C. Dodge, E. D. Rand, L. D. Stockton, David Rorer, and others not so well known, but of like character. They were men of marked ability and honorable ambition, of great independence and individuality of character, strong, resolute, persevering. They came from widely separated communities, and brought with them the best traditions and culture of their respective sections of the Union, and they gave their highest thought and their united efforts in establishing here between the two great rivers of the continent a commonwealth which should be surpassed by none in the virtue and vigor of its laws, and in the justice, humanity, and solidity of its institutions. These and such as these were the true pioneers of Iowa. We who came at a later date could not if we would, and would not if we could, take from them the peculiar pre-eminence which must always be theirs. They laid the foundation upon which others have built. They marked out the path in which others have trod. They started the ship of state upon its goodly voyage, and will be forever honored and illustrious in its annals.

Messrs. Lowe and Hepner were members of the First Constitutional Convention, which met at Iowa City, October 7, 1844; and the former of that also which met at the same place, May 4, 1846. Mr. Hepner was also a member of the House of Representatives of the first, second, fourth, and fifth Legislative Assemblies of Iowa Territory. Mr. Coolbaugh was, by general consent, a (perhaps the) leading banker and financier of the State, capable and ready in business and debate. Gen. Warren was a brilliant editorial writer on a local paper as early as 1844, First Assistant Postmaster General in 1849, a prominent Republican candidate for United States Senator in 1855 (as was also Browning on the opposite side), a distinguished soldier and very nearly the Republican nominee for Governor in 1863, elected to the State Senate in 1865 without opposition, he resigned the following year to accept the mission to Guatemala. He was brilliant and versatile, but lacked that poise and balance of mental endowment, which, in Governor Grimes, for instance, appeared as the genius of common sense. Gen. Matthies was not only a brave and gallant soldier, but enjoyed the unique distinction of having been one of the first, if not the first, to offer his services to the Government on the breaking out of the rebellion. He also was chosen to the Senate without opposition. Of the men I have mentioned all have been removed by death except Messrs. Cook and Foote, who still survive, and are passing the evening of long and well spent lives in serenity and peace in the midst of relatives and friends where for nearly half a century they have enjoyed the highest esteem and respect of their fellow-citizens.

STATE OFFICERS IN 1870.

At the time of the meeting of the Thirteenth General Assembly, as stated above, Samuel Merrill was Governor and about to enter upon his second term; Madison M. Walden, Lieutenant Governor elect; Ed Wright, Secretary of State; John A. Elliot, Auditor; Samuel E. Rankin, Treasurer; Cyrus C. Carpenter, Register of the State Land Office; Abraham S. Kissell,

Superintendent of Public Instruction; and Nathaniel B. Baker, Adjutant and Inspector General. Of these, Merrill, Wright and Carpenter remain with us, the others having passed away. Of the Supreme Court, Chester C. Cole was Chief Justice; George G. Wright and Joseph M. Beck (with one vacancy,) Judges; and Henry O'Connor, Attorney General. With these distinguished citizens time has dealt very gently. After twenty-four years of service as a member of our highest court, Judge Beck departed this life a few months since; the others with ripe experience and due honor continue until this day.

THE THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

in point of ability, character, patriotism, devotion to duty, and usefulness to the State, was not very different probably from those preceding and following it. Standing midway between the admission of the State into the Union and the present time, it may be taken as a fair example of all. In it were men of first-rate ability who had then or have since occupied high places in the public service and acquitted themselves with honor and distinction. It would be pleasant to particularize but quite impossible with the time and resources at my command to do justice to all. As to the House I will only mention that Aylett R. Cotton was Speaker, and Messrs. M. E. Cutts, Charles Dudley, William Harper, John P. Irish, Geo. W. Jones, John A. Kasson, John F. Lacy, William Mills, Samuel Murdock, J. G. Newbold, Fred O'Donnell, Galusha Parsons, Henry O. Pratt, N. W. Rowell, John Russell, John Y. Stone, A. H. Stutsman, John W. Traer, and James Wilson were some of its leading members.

The life statistics of the Senate show the usual variety except that all its members were married. The age of the oldest was sixty-six years, the youngest twenty-eight; the average forty-two. The heaviest man among them weighed two hundred and two pounds avoirdupois, the lightest, one hundred and twenty-four; the average was one hundred and sixty. None of them was born in Iowa. The oldest settler had been here thirty-five years, the youngest four years, while the average time of citizenship was fourteen years. They represented in their nativity eleven states of the Union and three foreign countries. Ohio claimed fourteen, New York seven, Pennsylvania seven, Connecticut four, Indiana four, Maine two, Tennessee two, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts and Vermont one each, Ireland four, Schleswig-Holstein one, France one. As to reported occupation there were seventeen farmers, seventeen lawyers, five merchants, four bankers, two editors, two physicians, one coal operator, one merchant miller and one real estate dealer. As to religion there was a still greater variety, to-wit, nine Liberals, nine Presbyterians, six Methodists, six Congregationalists, four Baptists, two Episcopalians, two "Orthodox," two Quakers, one Christian, one "Christianity," one Roman Catholic, one Universalist, one Lutheran, one Reformed Presbyterian, one United Presbyterian, one "Pure," one "What is Right," and three without religious preferences. Fourteen had been in the military service of the United States during the civil war.

PERQUISITES DISCONTINUED.

In those days a member at the opening of the session found upon his desk a package containing a pocket-knife, a gold pen, a portfolio and one or two other useful articles—perquisites, which in themselves small, amounted

in aggregate cost to a considerable sum. Members accepted these things with reluctance, and it was evident that the custom of furnishing them could not long survive. One eccentric member of the House refused to open or have anything to do with the package, and ordered it removed out of his sight. It was also customary for each house by resolution to allow its respective members to order a certain number of daily papers, or their equivalent in weeklies, to be sent to certain of their constituents, which they should designate, for the purpose of keeping them informed as to the proceedings of the General Assembly. At this session both houses spent considerable time in deciding as to the number each one should have. A respectable minority voted against the whole business. Others were inclined to vote in the same way, but said they had been besieged before leaving home by citizens asking that they be sent papers in this way, and they felt obliged to grant such requests. The number of dailies voted to each member usually ranged from twenty-five to fifty. Newspaper and postage bills had become large. Thus, in the Twelfth General Assembly, the appropriation for postage was \$16,212.33, and that for newspapers \$23,702.29, nearly \$40,000 00 for the two, while the per diem of members amounted to only \$62,626 00. The newspaper and postage bills of the Thirteenth General Assembly were but little less than those of the Twelfth. In the Fourteenth Assembly the House declined, after a lengthy discussion and numerous roll-calls, by a vote of fifty-one to forty-five, to "vote an appropriation for any papers subscribed for by its members." Before the close of the session an act was passed substituting a salary of \$550.00 for each regular session in lieu of the per diem of \$5.00, and discontinuing all allowances for stationery, postage, newspapers, or other perquisites. Besides discontinuing an unpleasant and troublesome custom, the new law effected a considerable saving to the State. Thus in the Twelfth General Assembly the appropriation for postage, newspapers, and pay of members amounted to \$102,576.62, while under the new law the compensation of members, all perquisites being forbidden, amounts in the aggregate to \$82,500.00. The perquisite business had grown to be a nuisance. It has not been revived and is not likely to be.)

PUBLISHING DEBATES.

I am not aware that any of our General Assemblies, except the Thirteenth, has had its debates reported and published in full. In 1870 Orwig & Co., publishers of the *Des Moines Bulletin*, issued a legislative supplement containing such report. It consists of a newspaper volume, bound in pasteboard, of two hundred and sixty-one pages, ten by fifteen inches in size, and of four columns each. The reporting was fairly done, but the paper is poor, much of the type is small, and as the volume is neither paged nor indexed it is not convenient for reference. But its existence raises the question whether the time has not come for the State to publish in good and permanent form the full debates and proceedings of its General Assemblies? Such report of an average session would probably make a volume of from six to nine hundred pages in the style of the Congressional Record, as now published, whose volumes vary from five hundred to one thousand pages. The cost of such a publication would not be a serious burden to the State, while its value historically and otherwise would be considerable. It occurs to me that the Twenty-sixth General Assembly, marking the beginning of

the second half century of the State's existence, would be a good one in which to take this forward step, suitable preparation being made therefor by the General Assembly now in session. I respectfully commend the subject to the attention of the latter body.

ELECTING UNITED STATES SENATORS.

In both the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies there were animated senatorial contests—that is, among the Republicans, who had a great majority in both houses—but not so animated as were some similar contests in previous years. Gov. Grimes, who was chosen Governor for a term of four years, August 3, 1854, was a member of the House of the Fourth General Assembly which met at Iowa City, December 6, 1852. Writing from there on that date he said: "The all-engrossing subject is the election of United States Senator. It has been the subject of one bloody fight, and many more are anticipated. Of course, being a Whig, I take no part in the controversy." But these rough-and-tumble methods were discontinued long before 1870. In the Thirteenth General Assembly, George G. Wright was chosen for the full term, beginning March 4, 1871, and James B. Howell for the unexpired term of Gov. Grimes, who had resigned while in Europe the previous summer. In the caucus the northern part of the State was pretty well united in the support of William B. Allison, and made such an exhibition of strength and purpose as to indicate his success when, two years later, he was pitted against Senator Harlan, who was then a candidate for the fourth time, having been successful in three previous elections. This latter contest in the Fourteenth General Assembly was memorable not only for the strong sectional spirit displayed, but in the fact that it retired, while in full vigor, one of the most able and popular United States Senators the State has ever had, and at the same time introduced one who has proven himself not inferior in practical ability or in his hold upon the people to any of his predecessors or contemporaries. Besides the consolidated north, Mr. Allison had strong influences in his favor, corporate, financial, etc., which added to his own skillful management and that of his friends, made his victory comparatively easy and emphatic. The whole number entitled to vote, 120. On the second regular ballot Mr. Allison received 63, Mr. Harlan 40, and Mr. James F. Wilson 17. As showing the friendly personal feeling existing between the rival candidates, and the sure forecast of the one who was beaten, I mention this incident: When I returned to Mr. Harlan's room at the hotel after the caucus, he said: "This ends my political career." And then after a moment's reflection, added: "Let us go and congratulate Mr. Allison." Proceeding to the latter's headquarters we found him in the midst of several score of enthusiastic friends who were fairly screaming themselves hoarse with joy, but who, on seeing Mr. Harlan approaching, ceased their uproar and opened a way to the place where Mr. Allison was standing. The latter was evidently much surprised, as he exclaimed, "Mr. Harlan! Why, Mr. Harlan!" In a very graceful and dignified manner, perfectly self-possessed and plainly sincere, Mr. Harlan congratulated his successor, and after a few words of conversation withdrew. The incident made a deep impression on those who witnessed it. The friend and adviser of Lincoln, the defender of Grant on the floor of the Senate, one of Iowa's stalwart and influential Senators during the war period, and the most pow-

erful political speaker who has appeared in the history of our State, quietly stepped down and out. Twenty-two years have elapsed since that eventful evening. The old Senator has never wavered from the principles he supported while in office, has remained always true to the party which honored him, and deeply interested in the honor and progress of the State. He will always be remembered as one of its most useful and illustrious citizens.

REPUBLICAN MAJORITIES.

As I have said, both the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies were largely Republican. In the former there were in the Senate forty-three Republicans and seven Democrats, and in the House eighty-seven Republicans and thirteen Democrats; in the latter there were in the Senate forty-two Republicans and eight Democrats, and in the House seventy-seven Republicans and twenty-three Democrats. Except in the election of officers by the respective Houses, United States Senators, and other officers chosen in joint session, and in a few other cases, the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States by the Thirteenth General Assembly, for example, partisan politics rarely appeared in the proceedings. In the Fourteenth General Assembly James Wilson, of Tama county, was Speaker of the House, and among its new members of prominence were Ed. Campbell, Jr., John F. Duncombe, John H. Gear, John W. Green, and B. J. Hall. H. C. Bulis, of Winneshiek county, was Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Senate, and among the new members were Geo. W. Bemis, John E. Burke, Edward J. Gault, E. B. Kephart, M. A. McCoid, John L. McCormack (deceased), B. B. Richards, J. N. W. Rumple, J. J. Russell, John Shane, John Y. Stone, George R. Willett, and James A. Young (deceased).

RAILROAD LEGISLATION.

In both the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies the questions connected with railroads occupied more attention than those connected with any other subject. They included public aid in building, rates for transportation of passengers and freight, taxation, fencing of track, and many other minor points. The maximum fare was fixed at three and a half cents a mile, and on first-class roads at three cents, which is still the law on this subject. As to freight, the chief complaint was as to discrimination, a greater charge for less service, partiality to favorite shippers, etc. The natural development of the railway system caused the consolidation of lines east and west of the Mississippi river, which took away from the towns on the eastern border of the State the peculiar advantages which they previously enjoyed as termini of eastern lines and as points of trans-shipment. So that the series of discussions which began in the Thirteenth General Assembly and culminated in the "granger law" of the Fifteenth, had their origin largely in the Mississippi river towns which contended for such a reduction of local rates as would enable them to ship to and from the interior towns of the State on about the same terms they had hitherto, and be free to select any market either east or south, and to escape, if possible, the fate that was sure from the beginning to overtake them, that of becoming way stations on continental lines. There was also much complaint of the advantages enjoyed by places where the junction or crossing of lines made competition practicable, to the extent at least of a considerable reduc-

tion of rates, which was balanced by a greater charge for shorter hauls to less favored points. In 1879 a number of lines were completed through the State to a common terminus at Council Bluffs and gave rise to the celebrated Omaha pool, which the State tried to break up by a law forbidding it, but found the matter was beyond its jurisdiction. This was also a principal element in the discussions which resulted in the granger or restrictive law of 1874.

The taxing of railroads was also a subject of very animated debate. The Thirteenth General Assembly passed an act levying a tax on gross receipts—one per cent on the first \$3,000 per mile, two per cent on receipts over \$3,000 and under \$6,000, and three per cent on the excess over \$6,000 per mile. One-fifth of the tax thus collected was to remain in the State Treasury, and four-fifths were to be apportioned among the counties in proportion to miles of main track in each. It was contended by some that railroad property should be assessed by local officers and taxed as was other property; and that the division of the tax as made by the bill was unfair to localities where there were considerable accumulations of railroad property in addition to main track; and further that the principles of taxation according to value should be applied to all property alike. But all objections were voted down and the bill became a law. It did not prove satisfactory, however, and the Fourteenth General Assembly repealed it and passed an act putting the assessment of railroad property into the hands of the executive council, who were to annually assess the property of the different corporations and the taxes to be collected were in accordance with the assessable value of each mile of main track, to be levied, collected and distributed as other taxes are by proper local authorities. This law also remitted the taxes which had been levied under the law which it repealed. Earnest protests were filed in both houses against the passage of this act, but it still remains, though that part remitting taxes was declared unconstitutional by the supreme court. As a partial offset to the unjust division of the tax, a section was added to the bill passed by the Thirteenth General Assembly and continued in that of the Fourteenth, exempting railroad bridges across the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and authorizing their assessment and taxation as other property in their respective localities. There are now about twenty of these bridges. The one in Des Moines county has yielded an annual revenue of about \$5,000 for the last twenty-three years.

OTHER LEGISLATION.

Among other permanent acts of the Thirteenth General Assembly was a new law for the government of the State University which improved the rules in the conduct of its business, took away its local and provincial character and put it on higher and better grounds of usefulness; one providing for the new capitol—a measure much criticised then, but whose wisdom and timeliness have since been demonstrated to the satisfaction of everybody; a law covering sixteen pages relating to the care of the insane, which was supplemented at the next session by a provision for the appointment by the Governor of a committee of three visitors (one of whom shall be a woman) to the hospitals for the insane, endowed with ample authority to make all needed investigations, and for the correction of abuses; a law for the prevention of cruelty to animals; a drainage act; an act for funding county indebtedness; numerous amendments to the Code, etc. Then

there was also a large number of local and temporary laws enacted. The joint resolutions numbered twenty-seven and covered a wide range of subjects; as, for example, the removal of the national capital, the congressional franking privilege, the initial point of the Union Pacific railway, the civil contest in Cuba, the Fox and Wisconsin river improvement, water communication between the Mississippi valley and the Atlantic ocean—a lengthy document covering fourteen printed pages; and many others, including the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.

At the beginning of the session the House broke the record in reference to the employment of women, by electing Miss Mary E. Spencer, a daughter of one of the Representatives from Clinton County, to the office of engrossing clerk. Two years later the Senate elected a young woman to the same office and gave employment to several others in different clerical capacities, and at the close of the extra session, by resolution, commended them for their good work, and advised succeeding General Assemblies to give like employment, and expressing the opinion that such action was no longer an experiment. It is hardly necessary to say that this advice has been followed by each succeeding General Assembly and the habit is not likely to be discontinued. Both houses of the Thirteenth passed a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution granting the right of suffrage to women; but it failed in the Fourteenth. There were, however, in both these bodies, many minor changes in the laws affecting the rights of women and all in their favor, showing that the public sentiment of the State was well advanced in the higher stages of civilization, man's treatment of woman, in the laws made exclusively by him, being a good criterion by which to judge of his enlightenment and progress in civil life. Perfection, however, has not been attained, and there remains much for the current and future General Assemblies to do all along the line.

CODE REVISION.

The Fourteenth General Assembly enacted laws providing for free public libraries, the taxation of railroad property, the building of an additional penitentiary, the inspection of coal mines, the improvement of streets and alleys, water-works in cities and towns, official visiting of hospitals for the insane, improvement of the State Library, short-hand reporters for courts, the abolition of capital punishment, with numerous amendments to the Code in relation to civil and criminal practice. The Thirteenth General Assembly had provided for the revision of the Code by appointing Wm. H. Seevers, John C. Polly and Wm. J. Knight commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, to complete the duties assigned them and report to the Governor by July 4, 1871, who was required to print one thousand copies—two copies each to be sent to members of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies. The Fourteenth at its regular session spent much time on this report, but being unable to complete the consideration of it, the whole subject was postponed to an extra session which met in January, 1873. Messrs. Seevers, Knight and W. J. Hammond were appointed commissioners of revision and instructed to include the acts of the Fourteenth General Assembly, and to print their work in bill form under proper titles

and send two copies each to the members who were also provided with the bills in bound volumes. At the extra session in 1873 this work was taken up. The bills were divided by alternate numbers between the two houses for initial consideration. The extra session met on the 15th of January and adjourned on the 15th day of February. A bound volume of the bills just referred to, with all amendments carefully incorporated, lies before me as I write, and shows with what assiduity the members worked during the time they were together. The Code was subsequently published under the editorship of Wm. H. Seevers.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

In the important matter of public education some things were undertaken in both of these Assemblies which could not be carried to success, and which still remain in abeyance. For example, in the Thirteenth, Wm. Harper, of Des Moines county, chairman of the committee on schools, introduced an elaborate bill codifying the school laws and adapting them to the township-district system, which could have been adopted then with much less difficulty than now. But the House killed the bill. The change is still advocated by our most intelligent and experienced educators. Thus the Superintendent of Public Instruction in his report for 1888-89 speaking of the township system says: "This subject has been so ably discussed by each of my predecessors in office that it does not seem necessary to spend much time upon it in this report. If the people of the State could be made to understand how much time, and money, and strength, is wasted in carrying our present complex system into effect, and how much the efficiency of the schools could be increased by the adoption of the civil township as the unit, they would demand that the legislature take immediate steps toward accomplishing that result." He follows this with facts, figures, and arguments to show its correctness. In the Fourteenth the chairman of the committee on schools in the Senate introduced and secured the passage of a bill, both at the regular and adjourned sessions, for compulsory education. In both instances it was defeated in the House, and it still remains to be adopted, though succeeding superintendents have advocated it and showed its necessity by carefully gathered statistics. Superintendent Akers, for example, in his report for 1886-87 goes into the matter at length, in response to a resolution of the Twenty-first General Assembly. He shows that while seventy-five per cent of the school population of the State was then enrolled only forty-six per cent of that population was in average attendance on the public schools! Such facts as these should arouse our people. It is feared that our rising statesmen do not take as much interest as they should, or as their predecessors did, in this great question of popular education. Of past chief executives none stands higher than Governor Grimes, and of all his services to the State and the nation as pioneer law-maker, governor, and United States senator, none does him greater honor or will be longer remembered to his credit than what he did in founding the free public school system of Iowa. Let his successors conserve and carry forward the great work which he so wisely and patriotically began.

THIRTEENTH PERSONALS.

Of the fifty-one Senators serving in the Thirteenth General Assembly death has overtaken twenty-three, namely Bill, Casady, Cathcart, Clarke,

Dixon, Dunham, Dysart, Griffiths, Havens, Hurley, Ireland, McCulloch, McKean, Mitchell, Mulkern, Murray, Newell, Patterson, Pierce, Rice, Tuttle, Vale and West. Of these ten were farmers, six lawyers, three merchants, one real estate dealer, one editor, one banker, and one physician. It will be remembered that the average age of members at the opening of the session was forty-two. The average age of the ten farmers deceased at the same time was forty-eight, that of the lawyers thirty-six, and of the merchants forty. Further on in this paper I give brief biographical sketches of these deceased brethren. As to the remaining twenty-eight members time will permit me to scarcely more than mention their names. As a rule they still reside at their old homes in the counties or districts represented by them. While a few are well along in life and have retired from business as well as from politics, the most of them are in good health and strength and abundantly able to speak for themselves.

Benjamin F. Allen of Polk county, a member of the Senate in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies, has spent much of his time for the last five years in California, "working for Uncle Sam." He still retains his homestead in Des Moines and considers the Capital city his home.

Charles Atkins of Monona county, a member of the Senate in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies, has been for many years a resident of Omaha, Nebraska, and until recently was engaged with the U. P. R. R.

Granville G. Bennett of Washington county, adjutant of the Nineteenth Iowa Infantry, a member of the House in the Eleventh and of the Senate in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies, was appointed a United States judge in the territory of Dakota many years ago, and was afterwards a delegate in congress from that territory. He is now practicing law in Deadwood, South Dakota.

Henry C. Bulis of Winneshiek county, member of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, was elected lieutenant-governor in 1871, and presided over the Senate of the Fourteenth General Assembly. He served many years as one of the regents of the State University. The practice of medicine has been the business of his life, though he has stepped aside occasionally to discharge the duties of some office thrown in his way.

Frank T. Campbell of Jasper county, captain in the Fortieth Iowa Infantry, was a member of the Senate of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth General Assemblies; was elected lieutenant-governor in 1877 and again in 1879. He subsequently served as railroad commissioner for several years, first by appointment from Governor Larrabee and again by election. He now resides in Des Moines.

James Chapin, of Benton county, a member of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, moved several years ago to California, and has his home now at Los Angeles.

Hans R. Claussen of Scott county, Thirteenth and Fourteenth, was born in Schleswig-Holstein, and resides in Davenport. He was the oldest member of the Senate, being then sixty-six. He is in good health, and bears his four score and ten years, I doubt not, with the equanimity of a philosopher. A very fine old gentleman as all who knew him in his earlier years will readily believe

George W. Couch, of Black Hawk county, resigned his senatorship soon

after adjournment of the Thirteenth General Assembly to engage in business in Chicago, where he now lives.

William G. Donnan of Buchanan county, a member of the Senate of the Twelfth and Thirteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-first General Assemblies, the representative of the Third District in Congress for two terms, 1871-75, and Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee in 1883, still practices law in Independence.

Samuel H. Fairall, of Johnson county, a member of the Senate of the Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth General Assemblies, and for many years Judge of the eighth judicial district, has recently resigned the latter office.

Liberty E. Fellows of Allamakee county, a Democrat and a good man, was born in Vermont, was a Senator in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, with some subsequent experience on the district bench, and now practices his profession at Lansing.

Joseph Grimes of Delaware county, was one of the older members of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. He is still living in a fair state of preservation for one of his years, being nearly four score. He has been a very useful man, and is highly esteemed by his fellow-citizens.

Augustus H. Hamilton of Wapello county, Major of the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, Senator in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, and long-time editor of the *Ottumwa Courier*, has recently retired from that paper, and is now, I infer, enjoying some well-earned leisure.

Theodore Hawley, of Webster county, Senator in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, is practicing law in Kansas City, Missouri, whither he went in 1889, after a residence of twenty-nine years in Iowa. It is not strange that he has a warm affection for the State which was so long his home.

Emmons Johnson, chosen to succeed Rufus B. Clark, deceased, served two weeks at the close of the session of the Thirteenth General Assembly, and now resides in Waterloo.

Isaac W. Keller, of Ringgold county, member of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, pursues the peaceful tenor of his way and the practice of law in Mt. Ayr.

Frederick M. Knoll, of Dubuque county, member of the Senate in the Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, is a native of France, a farmer by occupation, a Lutheran in religion, a Democrat in politics, and a steady going citizen of his adopted State and country. He is three score and has the promise yet, I hope, of many years of usefulness.

William Larrabee, of Fayette county, among his other titles to distinction, has that of the longest service in the General Assembly. He was a member of the Senate from the Twelfth to the Twentieth inclusive, and resigned in the middle of his fifth term of four years to accept the office of Governor to which he was twice elected. He retired from that office with the often expressed determination not to accept a political office again, a resolution to which he has steadily adhered.

Matthew Long, senator in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, representing Iowa and Poweshiek counties, removed to Des Moines in 1875, from there to California in 1884 on account of his health, and in 1886 to Marshfield, Missouri, where he is now successfully engaged in raising fruit and fine stock.

Robert Lowry, a Senator from Scott county, in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies, accepted a United States government office in the territory of Dakota, some years ago, and now lives at Huron, South Dakota.

Samuel McNutt, of Muscatine county, was a member of the House in the Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth General Assemblies, and of the Senate in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth. More recently he has been in the United States consular service.

Napoleon B. Moore, of Page county, Senator in the Twelfth and Thirteenth, lives now at Fort Worth, Texas

Robert Smyth, of Linn county, Senator in the Twelfth and Thirteenth, is still living, according to my information. He was born in Ireland, was a Lieutenant-Colonel in the United States Army, and is now about eighty years of age.

Henry C. Traverse, of Davis county, was a member of the House in the Eleventh, and of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth, and has been for several years a judge in the second district.

William F. Vermillion, of Appanoose county, Captain in 36th Iowa Infantry, was chosen to the Senate for the unexpired term of Lieutenant-Governor Walden; served in the Fourteenth; lives at Centerville.

William P. Wolf, of Cedar county, Captain Company I, 46th Iowa Infantry, was a member of the House in the Tenth, and of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth; had also a brief term in Congress, and was again a member of the House in the Twentieth, when he was Speaker. He was chairman of the Republican State Central Committee in 1884.

James D. Wright, of Lucas county, Surgeon 47th Iowa Infantry, was a member of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth, and now lives in Chariton.

In thus referring to the living members of the Senate of the Thirteenth General Assembly I have doubtless omitted to mention many positions of honor and trust held by them, not having at hand the necessary data for a complete history in any case. In the biographical sketches which follow I give such information as I have been able to obtain. And in a number of instances, though I exercised due diligence, I was unable to get anything beyond the meager facts of the original record. I am aware that even the fullest of these notices must come far short of doing justice to their subjects.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF DECEASED MEMBERS.

EDWARD M. BILL, of Albia, Monroe county, was a farmer, born in Connecticut in 1820, came to Iowa in 1850, served in the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. He was a quiet, steady-going member, rarely speaking, a man of good judgment, dignified in bearing, honest and upright in character. Mr. Bill died several years ago.

JEFFERSON P. CASSADY was born in the State of Indiana in 1828, and died at Council Bluffs, Iowa, April 27, 1892. Mr. Cassady came to Iowa in 1852. He served in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, representing Cass, Mills, Montgomery and Pottawattamie counties in the Senate. In the latter body he served on the committees on public buildings, charitable institutions, orphans' home, and senatorial districts. He was a Democrat in politics and a Presbyterian in religion. Mr. Cassady took a fairly active part in legislative proceedings, discharging his duties faithfully and enjoying

the confidence and good will of his fellow members. In the later years of his life he was in feeble health, and was unable to attend the meetings of this Association, as he frequently expressed a desire to do. Mr. Cassady was a well known and highly esteemed citizen of Council Bluffs where he resided for so many years.

JOHN M. CATHCART was born in the State of Indiana, in 1819; came to Iowa in 1858, and settled on a farm near Attica, in Marion county, where he continued to live until his death, in 1888. He was a quiet, attentive member of the Senate, rarely speaking, never attempting to lead in legislation, but always prompt and careful in the discharge of the duties devolving upon him. One who knew him long and intimately says: "He died as he lived, faithful and true"—a brief, but fitting and comprehensive eulogy of a good man.

RUFUS B. CLARKE was born in the State of Connecticut, in the year 1823. By his own efforts he obtained a liberal education, studied medicine, moved to the State of Wisconsin where he was practicing his profession when the war of the rebellion broke out. He served as surgeon of the 41st regiment of Wisconsin volunteers. He remained in the army until declining health made further service impracticable. He came to Iowa in 1866, stopping a while in Floyd county, and soon afterward settled at Janesville, Bremer county. His talents and character were such that he soon commended himself to his fellow-citizens, and at the election in the fall of 1869 he was chosen to represent the district composed of Bremer, Butler and Grundy counties in the Thirteenth General Assembly. When the session opened he was too ill to come to the capital. Letters received from him said that he hoped to be in his seat after the recess. But he never came, his death occurring about the middle of February, while the General Assembly was in session. Those who knew him personally spoke in high terms of his character, patriotism and ability.

JOHN N. DIXON was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, in 1821; died in Mahaska county, Iowa, in December, 1883. His parents belonged to the Society of Friends. With them when very young he removed to Columbiana county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood and was fitted for college at Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, and in due time entered the institution at Athens; but before completing his college course he began the study of law, to which his parents objected so strongly that he gave it up, returned home, and being an only son, worked with his father on the farm. He soon became interested in horticulture, and grew a fine young nursery, out of which he planted a large orchard on his own land near the Ohio river. After his marriage he was elected a member of the Ohio State Board of equalization. In 1855 he moved with his family to Iowa, settling in Pleasant Grove township, Mahaska county, where he bought about one thousand acres of land and began general farming, but paid special attention to sheep, of which he had at one time three thousand head. He never gave up his interest in horticulture. In 1869 he bought a farm in Garfield township, Mahaska county, and planted, besides small fruits, eleven thousand apple trees, making at the time the largest apple orchard in the State. He had some fruit five years after planting, but never a large crop until 1880, when he had over 34,000 bushels of apples. I had the pleasure of calling on Mr. Dixon just as he had completed the gathering of this enormous crop of

apples. The exhibition was very large and very fine, far surpassing anything I ever saw in that line. He met with much trouble from the leaf-robber or curculio, for which, by careful study and experiment, he discovered a remedy, which has been adopted by horticulturists, and for which he received a prize from the State Horticultural Society—an institution of which he was at one time President. He was also a trustee of Iowa Agricultural College for some years. Mr. Dixon represented Mahaska county in the Senate of the Thirteenth General Assembly, having been chosen to the unexpired term of the lamented John R. Needham. As a legislator Mr. Dixon was active and intelligent, quick of apprehension, and a ready speaker. At home he was public-spirited, taking a lively interest in, and contributing freely of time and money to all projects for promoting the prosperity and welfare of the community and of the State at large. He was of a fine personal appearance, a genial and companionable gentleman, and greatly esteemed by all who knew him. His remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Oskaloosa by the Masonic fraternity, of which he had long been an honored member.

LEWIS BRIGHAM DUNHAM was born in the State of Connecticut, October 6, 1806; died in Jackson county, Iowa, January 1, 1892. He was graduated at Union College in 1829, read law in Utica, N. Y., and was admitted to the bar in Brookville, Pennsylvania, in 1836, and practiced there for twelve years, and for four years was deputy State attorney. In 1845 he came on a prospecting tour as far west as Rock Island, Illinois. He returned to his old home in Pennsylvania in 1847, and resumed the practice of law. In 1856 he settled in Maquoketa, Jackson county, Iowa, where, in connection with his brother-in-law, O. Von Schrader, he established a private bank, which was afterwards merged into a branch of the State Bank of Iowa, and still later into the First National Bank of Maquoketa. In 1871 he disposed of his interest in that bank, and in company with D. M. Hubbell, who subsequently retired, founded the Exchange Bank of Maquoketa, of which he was president at the time of his death. Mr. Dunham was a Democrat in politics, and in 1842 and 1843 represented his district in the Legislature of Pennsylvania. In the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies of Iowa, he represented Jackson county in the Senate. In the latter body he served on the committees on roads, new counties, Senatorial districts, and horticulture and forestry. He was a man of excellent judgment, quiet and unobtrusive, intelligent and careful in the performance of his duties, and well liked by his associates. In the records published at the time Mr. Dunham's age was mistakenly given at fifty-three, while from the more accurate record given above, it will be noticed that he was ten years older than that. From his appearance no one would have suspected the mistake. He continued younger than his years, and one week before his death he was apparently in good health, active in mind and body, and attending to business as was usual with him. The immediate cause of his death was pneumonia, following a severe attack of the then prevailing malady, *la grippe*. Mr. Dunham was thrice married, and left at his death a wife and three children. He was prosperous in business, warmly beloved by his family and friends, and much thought of by all who knew him. In his death the State lost one of its most valuable citizens.

JOSEPH DYSART was born in Huntington county, Pennsylvania, July 18,

1820; died in Dysart, Tama county, Iowa, September 7, 1893. At the age of nineteen he came west with other land-seekers, landing at Burlington and hoping to secure a location near Mt. Pleasant. He was disappointed, returned to his old home, entered Dickinson College at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and at his graduation there in 1845 was the valedictorian of his class. From 1847 to 1853 he was a teacher in the state of Mississippi, for some time the principal of an academy there which he had assisted in organizing. He also studied law and was admitted to the bar in Mississippi. He was then for two or three years a farmer in Lee county, Illinois, and in 1856 moved to Benton county, Iowa, where he bought a half interest in the *Vinton Eagle*, that he might have a medium through which he could express the increasing abhorrence of slavery which a residence in the south had given him. He edited the political columns of the paper in 1856 and 1857, and in the following year was county superintendent of schools. In 1861 he was elected State Senator from Benton and Tama counties to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Thomas Drummond. In 1863 he moved to his large farm in Tama county, where he resided until his death. In 1865 he was elected to the Tama county board of supervisors, where he served six years, and later two terms of four and three years, respectively, or thirteen in all. He was chosen to the State Senate from the district composed of Tama and Poweshiek counties, serving in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies. In 1873 he was elected Lieutenant-Governor on the ticket with Governor Carpenter, and presided over the Senate of the Fifteenth General Assembly. In October, 1849, Mr. Dysart was married in Pickens county, Alabama, to Miss Esther E. Wayne, who, with four children survives him. Mr. Dysart was well equipped for the duties of public office. He was a scholar and a gentleman; a good speaker, a forcible writer, a man of affairs, well informed and thoroughly devoted to the highest public interests. He was honored and beloved by his neighbors, and very highly respected by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

GEORGE E. GRIFFITH was born in Pennsylvania in 1823, removed to Iowa in 1853, and settled in Warren county where he pursued the occupation of a farmer. He was a member of the House in the Eleventh and of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. In the Thirteenth he was a member of the committees on agriculture, railroads, incorporations, and public buildings, serving as chairman of the one last named. He introduced the bill, which became a law, providing for the erection of the new capitol. He was an active and substantial member, discharging his duties with care and fidelity, realizing the responsibility devolving upon the law makers of a new and growing State. Nearly twenty years ago he moved with his family to Missouri; and died at or near Warrensburg in that State, May 21, 1885, where some members of his family still reside. Mr Griffith carried with him to his new home an active interest in Iowa affairs, and pleasant recollections of his colleagues in the Legislature.

JOSEPH WARREN HAVENS was born in Franklin county, Ohio, May 17, 1841, and removed to Taylorsville, Illinois, where he learned the trade of marble-cutting, and followed it until 1863, when he married, removed to Keokuk county, Iowa, and associated with his brother, purchased the *Sigourney News*, with which he was connected until the latter part of the year 1878. He served in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies as

the Senator from Keokuk county. He was on the committees on federal relations, printing, compensation of public officers, and chairman of that on representative districts. He did not speak often, but could be entertaining, caustic and amusing when he chose, as his speech on the geological survey of the State demonstrated. He charged that the State geologist was prejudiced in favor of a particular line of proposed railway and gave a vivid description of that official as he was said by the speaker to have travelled up and down that line "occasionally entering an already developed coal mine, and then with eyes beaming with the light of geological science, and a face smutty with coal dust; making a bee-line for the nearest editorial sanctum to write up in general terms a highly wrought newspaper puff for that locality." It is hardly necessary to add that that particular line of road did not pass through the county represented by the critic. Mr. Havens was one of the most promising of the younger members of the Senate, and but for an unfortunate habit which had already begun to assert its dominion over him, might have been one of the most distinguished. After leaving the *Sigourney News*, he worked on the Council Bluffs *Nonpareil* and other papers until a short time before his death, which occurred at Boone, February 3, 1887. His remains were buried at Sigourney, beside those of his wife. One familiar with his career says, "he was not a financier, never accumulated much property, and died very poor. Poor Warren, what he might have been."

JAMES SIMPSON HURLEY was born in Champaign county, Ohio, May 18, 1829; died in Louisa county, Iowa, of paralysis, October 14, 1891. His parents, David and Elizabeth (Downs) Hurley, Quakers and natives of New Jersey, were pioneer settlers in Champaign county, Ohio, from whence they emigrated to Louisa county, Iowa, in 1840. David died in 1846. James S. taught school one winter. Except as to this and six months at Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois, he lived and worked on a farm until he was about twenty-three years old, when he commenced the study of law in Wapello, in the office of B. F. Wright. In 1854 he attended law school in Dubuque. He was admitted to the bar the same year, and commenced the practice in Wapello which continued until his death. He was elected prosecuting attorney in 1855 to fill a vacancy, and the following year was chosen for the full term. During the incumbency of this office he was frequently called on to perform the duties of county judge. He was a member of the Senate in the Ninth, Tenth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies, serving on important committees and doing valuable work, particularly in the Fourteenth, when he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee and took a leading part in the revision of the Code. Mr. Hurley was originally a Whig, then a Republican, zealous, but not bitter. Before the days of railroads Mr. Hurley used to go to State Conventions in Des Moines, a distance of one hundred and twenty-five miles or more, in his buggy. He was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in Chicago in 1880, when Garfield was nominated for President. Mr. Hurley and Miss Mattie Garrett, of Garrettsville, Ohio, were married in 1857. Of their children one son and three daughters survive. Mr. John Hale, of Wapello, and Mr. Hurley were law partners from 1871 until the latter's death. Mr. Hurley took a very active interest in promoting the welfare of the community in which he lived, and was in all respects a public-spirited, warm-hearted and patriotic citizen. He was modest and

retiring in disposition, and while as a legislator he was active and energetic in the discharge of his duties; he was not given to much speaking, and seldom if ever occupied the floor except to explain or make clear some point or measure under consideration. Among many things for which he is gratefully remembered in the community where he made his home for half a century is this, mentioned by his long-time partner, Mr. Hale: "I personally know that Mr. Hurley was the originator of the project for a north and south railroad through Louisa county, that finally brought about the incorporation of the company that built the B., C. R. & N. Railway. He worked two years faithfully before he got up interest enough to set the matter going."

ALEXANDER BAIRD IRELAND, M. D., was born March 12, 1818, at Sevierville, Sevier county, Tennessee, and died at Fremont, Illinois, August 29, 1878, of typho-malarial fever. He was the fourth of nine children born to Thomas L. and Hannah Wood Ireland. His father was a farmer in moderate circumstances; his mother a daughter of a well known and talented Baptist minister, the Rev. Richard Wood. Up to eighteen years of age his life was spent at home on the farm, when the family moved to Schulyer county, Illinois, and two years later to Tazwell county in the same State. Upon moving to Illinois, young Ireland engaged in teaching in the public schools, which calling he continued for five years; and having studied medicine in the meantime, was able to enter the Illinois Medical College at Jacksonville, from which institution he was graduated with honors in 1846. The same year he located at Andrew, Jackson county, Iowa, where he practiced his profession until 1852, with the exception of one year, 1850, which he spent in California. In 1852 Dr. Ireland moved to Camanche, Clinton county, Iowa, which was then one of the most important points in the eastern part of the State. In 1854 he married Mary E. Cady of New Berlin, New York, who died in 1873. Of their five children, three are still living. He continued the practice of medicine up to the time of his death, meanwhile serving his fellow citizens in many public stations. He was the first mayor of Camanche, elected in 1857, and again 1859. He was prominent and active both as a Mason and Odd Fellow, and held the highest local offices in both those orders. He was Senator from Clinton county in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies. As a legislator he was careful and conservative, not speaking often, but always attentive to business, and enjoying the highest esteem of his fellow members, his faithfulness and high character challenging their respect and his kindly and courteous ways awakening their friendship and admiration. One who knew him well says: "He died as he lived, a consistent, conscientious man, respected by all and loved by many."

E. S. McCULLOCH was born in Davidson County, Tennessee, July 3, 1812, and died in Harrison township, Lee County, Iowa, April 5, 1877. When quite young he emigrated to Montgomery county, Illinois. There he enlisted in and served during the Black Hawk war. In the fall of 1835 he came to Iowa, and settled at the place where death found him. March 25, 1841, he married Minerva A. Paisley, who preceded him to the 'better land' several years. In 1841 he was chosen to the lower branch of the Territorial Legislature and was re-elected the following year. In 1850 he was a member of the House in the Third General Assembly. In the

Fifth and Sixth General Assemblies, he was a member of the Senate. In the Eighth he was again a member of the House; and in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth of the Senate. At the meeting of the Thirteenth General Assembly, Mr. McCulloch had the distinction of having been in the State thirty-five years, of being a genuine pioneer, a soldier of the Black Hawk war and a member with fourteen years' legislative experience—in all these particulars standing at the head of the list. He was a man of modest disposition, good intelligence, fine spirited, and very faithful and conscientious in the discharge of his public duties. He seldom, if ever, took part in debate, introduced few bills, and offered fewer amendments to those introduced by others, yet he was withal a useful member and one universally liked by his associates. Knowing him it was easy to understand why he was so popular with his constituents, and quite impossible not to admire his noble traits of character. A local history says: "He died respected and beloved by all who knew him," a statement which those who shared in his legislative experience will have no difficulty in giving full credit.

JOHN MCKEAN was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was born in Lawrence county, Pennsylvania, July 19, 1835. His father was for forty years a Presbyterian minister. John and his brother James came to Jones county, Iowa, in 1854, and prepared a home for the family in Scotch Grove township, where his father had previously purchased a section of land. John entered Jefferson college, Pennsylvania, in 1856 and was graduated with the highest honors of his class in 1859. He soon after settled at Anamosa and in due time commenced the practice of law there. He was a successful practitioner and a popular citizen from the beginning. He represented Jones county in the House in the Eleventh and Twelfth General Assemblies, and in the Senate the Thirteenth and Fourteenth. In the latter he had the pleasure of securing the passage of a bill for an additional penitentiary to be located at Anamosa, a measure introduced by him and advocated with persistent zeal for several sessions. He was an active and influential member of every body in which he served. He was a man of marked ability, a ready and logical speaker, friendly in his intercourse with fellow members and of unbending integrity. After retiring from the Legislature he was twice elected to the district bench where his services were able and impartial, and highly appreciated both by the bar and by the public. Judge McKean was for a long time ruling elder in the Presbyterian church, and was also well known in the councils of Masonry and Odd Fellowship. After a long and painful illness he died in Dubuque, August 8, 1891, surrounded by the members of his grief-stricken family. A noble man and a good citizen, his memory will long be cherished by all who knew him.

ISAAC J. MITCHELL was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, May 31, 1827; died at Boonesboro, Iowa, August 11, 1883. While preparing to teach school he worked on a farm for two dollars a week. He taught at Laurel, Ohio, and Brazil, Indiana, and attended Asbury University one term, when he stopped on account of failing health. He came to Boonesboro, Iowa, in 1855, and the next year assisted in the organization of the Republican party. He studied law while engaged in the drug business, and was admitted to the bar in 1858. He was chosen a member of the State Board of Education the same year, and served two years. He was a member of the Senate in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies, serving in the latter on the

committee on railroads, constitutional amendments, and internal improvements, and was chairman of that on enrolled bills. He took an active part in legislative proceedings. He served some time as a Trustee of the State Agricultural College, and in 1874 was elected Judge of the Eleventh Judicial District and served four years. Mr. Mitchell and Mrs. Amanda M. Denison were married in 1860. In religion he was liberal, and though not a church member, sympathized and coöperated with the Methodists.

MICHAEL B. MULKERN was born in Ireland in 1829, died at his home in Dubuque in 1871. Mr. Mulkern came to Iowa when he was twenty-four years old. He was a lawyer, winning many friends at the bar and among his fellow-citizens. He was elected a State Senator from Dubuque county in 1869 and served in the Thirteenth General Assembly, but before the meeting of the Fourteenth he passed away. He took an active part in legislative proceedings, was a ready speaker, and participated often in debate. He was a democrat in politics, a Roman Catholic in religion, courteous in bearing, genial and sparkling in conversation, although even then the disease which carried him off was well under way. In the Fourteenth General Assembly fitting eulogies were paid to his memory.

BENJAMIN F. MURRAY was born in Hancock county, Ohio, August 20, 1838, and died at Winterset, Iowa, May 7, 1890. He came to Madison county, Iowa, in 1854. With the exception of one year at Mt. Pleasant, his education was obtained in the common schools. He studied law with Judge Leonard at Winterset, and pursued the practice there. On the first call for troops in 1861 he enlisted in the Third Iowa Infantry. He was taken a prisoner at the battle of Shiloh, and was in most of the southern prisons. He was honorably discharged from the army in 1863, and resumed the practice of his profession at his old home, serving as District Attorney for the year 1864. He represented Madison county in the House in the Twelfth General Assembly, and in the Senate of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth. He would probably have been the republican nominee for Congress in 1876, had his health remained as good as usual. He was never strong, and the long prison life doubtless hastened the fatal disease which ultimately carried him off. His brain became affected, his mind clouded, and he was never himself again. He spent years in the hospital for the insane at Mt. Pleasant and afterwards at Clarinda, but his faculties were hopelessly obscured. Mr. Murray was a successful lawyer, at one time a partner of M. L. McPherson, and at another of S. G. Ruby. He died as above stated and was buried by the G. A. R. and Masonic order. He was a very active member in the legislative bodies in which he served, and no one perhaps surpassed him in quickness of perception and decisive action. Mr. Murray was married in 1864. Mrs. Murray still lives at Winterset and four of their five children are living. One who knew him well in his bright as well as in his cloudy days says, "He had a warm, loving heart, and wonderful magnetism, with scores of loyal friends who were always anxious to follow him as a leader; he was a leader of men and had his health been good he would probably have attained his highest ambition."

HOMER E. NEWELL was born in Chenango county, New York, in 1836. Completing his college course in 1857, he came the same year to McGregor, Clayton county, Iowa, and engaged in the drug business, which he continued until 1879. In the meantime he served sixteen years in the city

council of McGregor and four years in the State Senate, being chosen to the Twelfth General Assembly without opposition, and serving in that and the Thirteenth. In the latter he served on the committees on ways and means, state university, penitentiary, medical institutions, and compensation of public officers, being chairman of the last two. He was a cultivated gentleman, of agreeable manners, attentive to business, a ready speaker and a useful legislator. In 1879 he removed with his family to Kansas City, Missouri, and engaged in the wholesale drug trade. Soon thereafter his health began to give way, and he went to Nebraska, hoping the change would be beneficial, but he continued to fail, and died there in 1881, leaving a wife and two children, a son and daughter, both now married, the latter living in Boston, as does also Mrs. Newell; while the son lives in Nebraska. Mr. Newell is pleasantly remembered by his associates in the Senate, and by his former fellow citizens in Clayton county, where he was for more than a score of years a prominent and useful citizen.

JOHN G. PATTERSON, of Charles City, Floyd county, a lawyer by profession, born in Pennsylvania in 1831, emigrated to Iowa in 1857, was a member of the State Senate in 1864, 1866, 1868 and 1870. In the latter year, that is, in the Thirteenth General Assembly, he represented the counties of Chickasaw, Floyd and Howard. In previous years other counties had been attached to the district represented by him. His chief service in the Thirteenth General Assembly was as chairman of the committee on railroads, a burdensome position in those days. Mr. Patterson is remembered as an industrious, hard-working member, active and zealous alike on the floor and in committee. He was fatally injured in a railroad accident in Clay county, this State, on the 29th of October, 1878. He lived but a few hours after the occurrence.

ABIAL R. PIERCE was a Senator from Jefferson county in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies. He was born in the State of Maine in 1820, and died at his home in Lockridge, Jefferson county, about the year 1890. He became a citizen of Iowa in 1857. He was major of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry. In the Thirteenth General Assembly he served on the committees on county and township organization, Reform School, military and internal improvement, being chairman of the latter. He was a man of good ability, fairly active in legislative work, and faithful in the discharge of his duties.

WELLS S. RICE represented the Senatorial District composed of Hardin and Marshall in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies. He was born in Ohio in 1820, came to Iowa in 1852, settling in Marshalltown, Marshall county, where he was engaged as a merchant. In the Thirteenth General Assembly he served on the committees on railroads, military, commerce and incorporations. Mr. Rice's death is reported to have taken place in Oklahoma a year or two ago.

MARCUS TUTTLE was born in the State of New York in 1830, and died at Spencer, Iowa, some years ago. He came to Iowa in 1854 or 1855. He was a merchant in the town of Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo county, and in the Twelfth and Thirteenth General Assemblies represented in the Senate the district composed of the counties of Butler, Cerro Gordo, Franklin and Grundy. In the Thirteenth he was a member of the committees on railroads, senatorial districts, constitutional amendments and commerce, being

chairman of the latter. He was a quiet member, rarely occupying the floor, but attentive to business, and impressing his associates as a man of integrity and patriotism.

JACOB GARRETSON VALE was born in Washington township, York county, Pennsylvania, July, 7, 1821; died in Harrisburg township, Van Buren county, Iowa, February 17, 1874. His parents were of the Friend's church. His father died when he was two years old. From that time until he was sixteen, he lived with an uncle, receiving such education as the common schools afforded. At the age last mentioned he set out for himself, working on a farm for \$5.25 a month. Determined to have a better education, he was soon able to enter the Friend's boarding school, at Mt. Pleasant, Ohio, where he completed an English course, having for a class and room-mate, W. H. M. Pusey, of Council Bluffs, an honored member of this Association. Mr. Vale taught school for eight consecutive years in Smithfield, Jefferson county, Ohio, and in this time studied law, going once in two weeks to Steubenville to recite to Edwin M. Stanton, the famous War Secretary of the rebellion period. Also during this time Mr Vale was chosen county surveyor, and did valuable service in that comparatively new country. It was while pursuing this avocation that he met, for the first time, Miss Annie Rex, who subsequently became his devoted and helpful wife. In 1850 they came to Iowa, settling on Sugar Creek, near Primrose in Lee county, where a good corn crop the next year—the noted wet season—laid the foundation for a comfortable fortune. In 1856 they moved to a farm in Van Buren county, which became their home, where Mr. Vale lived and died, and where Mrs. Vale still resides. Mr. Vale was an enthusiastic Whig, then a Republican, and like many another Iowa farmer at that time, eagerly devoured the contents of the *New York Weekly Tribune*. His early training made him a strong anti-slavery man. During the war, not being a strong man physically, he contributed freely to the local bounty fund, and by organization and addresses did what he could for the Union cause. After coming to Iowa Mr. Vale dropped the practice of law and devoted himself successfully to agriculture and stock-raising. He was a candidate for the Legislature on the Whig ticket, in the early fifties, in Lee county, but was defeated, the county being then, as now, strongly Democratic. In 1869 he was elected to the State Senate from Van Buren county, and served in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies, where his education, knowledge of the principles of law, general intelligence and strong common sense made him a very valuable member. He took an active and special interest in schools and institutions of higher education as well as in all measures affecting the great agricultural interests of the State. He was a lover of good English and was sometimes good humoredly called “the grammarian of the Senate.” Mr. Vale was a member of the United Presbyterian church. He was an upright and useful citizen, a true friend, an honest man. He died at the comparatively early age of fifty-three. His wife, two married daughters and one son, Hon. B. R. Vale, the present well-known Senator representing Van Buren and Jefferson counties, survive him.

JOEN P. WEST, a farmer of Henry county, was born in Ireland in 1825, came to Iowa in 1856, was a sergeant in the Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and represented Henry county in the House in the Ninth and Eleventh General

Assemblies, and in the Senate in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth. He was an active member, vigorous and pugnacious in a legislative sense, and conscientiously faithful in the discharge of his public duties. He emigrated to California many years ago, and died there as I am informed. I regret that I have not been able to get further particulars in regard to him.

MADISON M. WALDEN was born October 6, 1836, on Scioto Brush Creek, Adams county, Ohio. He was reared on a farm. In his early life he attended school at a log house two miles from home. In 1852 he came with his parents to Lee county, Iowa, residing on a farm near Primrose. In 1854 he entered Denmark Academy where he remained one year. In 1855 he attended college at Mt. Pleasant, two terms, and then returned to Ohio and taught one term in Warren county, near Morrowtown. The same year he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, graduating in the scientific course in June, 1857. Having no funds except what he earned, he engaged to teach in Champaign county, Ohio, and at the same time kept up with his classes in college. In 1858 he taught a term in Miami county, and in 1859 graduated in the full course of study and received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In 1859 he came west as far as Illinois and taught one term, and then came to Iowa, and was employed as Principal of the public school in Centerville, the building being on the identical spot where his late residence now stands. In 1860 he went south with the idea of following his profession as a teacher, although in the meantime he took up the study of law. Not finding a healthy condition of affairs in the south he returned to Centerville early in 1861, and enlisted in the first company raised for the war in Appanoose county. May 16, 1861, he was commissioned captain of Company D. Sixth Iowa Infantry, and was mustered into service at Burlington, Iowa, July 17. He was detached from his company at Jefferson City, Missouri, the following October, and was sent home to recruit men to fill the ranks depleted by sickness. He enlisted troops at Centerville, Albia, Chariton, Osceola, and other points in southern Iowa, afterwards joining his regiment at Sedalia, Missouri. While at home Madison M. Walden was united in marriage to Fannie A. Holt. October 14, 1861. Three children were born to them, Mary, Albert, and Miner (all now dead). He took an active part with his command at the battle of Shiloh, and the following December, 1862, was obliged to resign on account of severe hemorrhage of the lungs. In the summer of 1863 he was enrolling officer for Appanoose county, and later he raised another company for the service, and was mustered in as captain of Company H, Eighth Iowa Cavalry, at Davenport, September 30. In 1864 he was with Sherman on the Atlanta campaign, and took part in many severe battles. He was captured July 30, 1864, in the rear of Atlanta, where he had gone with his regiment, in General McCook's division, to tear up the railway. He was imprisoned first at Macon and thence taken to Charleston, and placed under fire of the Federal guns. In October he escaped from the prison and reached his regiment at Columbia, Tennessee, in time to take part in the battle of Franklin. Early in 1865 he was assigned to duty as Provost Marshal on the staff of General Croxton, commanding first brigade of the First Division Cavalry Corps. For ten years following the war Mr. Walden was editor and proprietor of the *Centerville Citizen*. He was county superintendent of schools from 1866 to 1868. He was a member of the House in the Eleventh General Assembly

which met in January, 1866, and of the Senate in the Twelfth which met two years later. He was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1869 and presided over the Senate of the Thirteenth General Assembly. In the autumn of 1870 he was elected a member of Congress where he served from March 4, 1871 to March 4, 1873. He afterwards published the *Centerville Tribune* for several years. At the earnest solicitation of friends he consented to accept the nomination for the State Legislature again and was elected a member of the House of the Twenty-third General Assembly which convened January 13, 1890. Later in 1890 he received an appointment in the U. S. Treasury Department, which position he held at the time of his death. He died in Washington, D. C., July 24, 1891. His remains were brought to his home in Centerville, Iowa, where they were laid to rest by the side of his children. His widow still lives at the old homestead in Centerville. At the time of the meeting of the Thirteenth General Assembly Lieutenant Governor Walden was thirty-three years old. He was a model presiding officer—a manly form, handsome countenance, a good parliamentarian, prompt in decision, courteous and impartial, he easily won the respect and friendship of those with whom he was associated. Cordial and pleasing in manner, pure and upright in habits and character, a brave and patriotic soldier, his memory must always be a delight to those who knew him well.

I have thus, Mr. President and gentlemen of the Association, accomplished the task as well as I could under the circumstances, of giving some account of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies. I am aware that it is very imperfectly done. I think I could have done it better had I known earlier—say twenty-four years earlier—that I was to undertake it; and the thought occurs to me that it might be well in the interests of the Association and the work it was founded to do, if each house of succeeding General Assemblies, before dispersing at its regular session, would informally appoint a committee on history and biography, with instructions to report at a meeting of this Association twenty or twenty-four years later. If the committee should consist of three the chairman could do the work, keeping it in such shape that it could be taken up in the event of his death by the next in order on the committee; and thus every biennial meeting would have a careful history of at least one General Assembly. This orderly arrangement need not interfere with the genial flow of anecdote and reminiscence which usually enlivens an occasion of this kind. We have a noble and promising Commonwealth. To have a part in the making of its laws, and to do that part conscientiously and well, ought to gratify the honorable ambition of our best citizens; while the history of legislation and suitable biographical notices of those who have answered the last roll-call in this sphere of action, would be both interesting and valuable. The expectation that such a history was to be written and a permanent record made of it in the proceedings of this Association would tend to increase the thoughtfulness and sense of responsibility in legislative work, and to some extent, at least, would quicken and inspire those who are to come upon the stage at a later period in the progress and growth of the State. To awaken a laudable ambition, to bring the best qualified citizens into public service, to keep down all selfish, corrupt and unworthy motives, and to kindle the fires of a pure and lofty patriotism, are purposes entitled to our constant and increasing regard. And we are not likely to be too often reminded that

“Ill fares the land to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.”

The next paper was read by Charles Aldrich, entitled "Captain Thomas Drummond."

The first time I ever saw an Iowa Legislature in session was in the month of February, 1858. I was then living in Webster City, Hamilton county, where I had started *The Freeman* newspaper the previous summer. That winter was an open one, there being but little snow. A fellow townsman, Hon. Walter C. Willson, a member of the preceding legislature—the last which met in Iowa City—drove across the country in a light open wagon, carrying Mr. George Smith, another early settler and myself. The most of the way coming down, we traveled over the prairie, four or five miles east of the road, which followed the sinuosities of the timber belt the greater part of the way. There had been the usual autumnal prairie fires, and the ground was bare and quite smooth. Mr. Willson was a thorough pioneer and able to pick his way regardless of the wagon road. We reached the capital without other incident than narrowly escaping a ducking through the ice in Squaw Fork, a deep prairie creek in the south part Hamilton county.

At that time the only legislative body I had ever seen in session was the United States Senate, a week or two after the inauguration of President Frank Pierce. I need not say that this was an interesting experience to a pioneer editor as far from shore as Webster City was at that time.

The old Capitol—now such an interesting ruin—had not long been built, and stood in the midst of thick woods. James W. Grimes, the very able Governor, had been elected United States Senator but a few days before. Elijah Sells, one of the ablest men who ever filled that office, was Secretary of State. John W. Jones, of Hardin, who died in Des Moines during the last year of Governor Larrabee's administration, was State Treasurer. Oran Faville, of Mitchell county, a most courtly and dignified gentleman, was Lieutenant Governor. Stephen B. Shelledy, of Jasper county, was Speaker of the House. Of a few of the members of the House I have always retained very distinct impressions. Our member was Cyrus C. Carpenter, a gentleman who was heard from in other useful capacities in subsequent years. He was a young man of apparently not more than twenty-five.

George W. McCreary, of Lee, had appeared in public life for the first time. He was a young man of about twenty-two. He was smooth-faced and most boyish in appearance, but wearing an air of seriousness and dignity that would have been most becoming in a gray-haired judge. I heard him speak briefly on some pending bill, and I recall the fact that he commanded the attention of the House.

I remember Dennis Mahony of Dubuque, quite an old man, afflicted with some nervous disorder which caused his head to shake, giving his eyes a very curious and unsteady appearance. But when he spoke, deprecatingly of certain trivial and undignified proceedings then on foot, everybody listened attentively, and the House accepted his advice.

Old Zimri Streeter of Black Hawk, was one of the characters of that House, as he was of the next one. He was a wit and a wag, with all his rude speech and lack of culture. Mahony besought a member to withdraw a resolution which had been introduced in a mere spirit of badinage. "Old Black Hawk" rose and said: "Let it be withdrawed, it has sarved its purpus." The House

indulged in a hearty laugh, and the resolution was speedily laid aside, the House coming down to the serious work in hand.

Belknap of Lee, was also a member, not older, perhaps, than Carpenter. Something above the medium height, red-cheeked, fair-haired, with flowing beard, he was one of those men who would attract attention in any assemblage—one you would probably turn to look back at if you passed him on the street. How he and McCreary climbed the ladder of fame in after years are matters of national history.

M. M. Trumbull, later "the hero of the Hatchie," where he won his brigadier's star, was another member who made his mark that winter, though he, too, was one of the youngest members.

Another well-remembered member was James F. Wilson. I interviewed him in the hope of securing his support of a bill I had brought along in my pocket, providing for the publication of the laws in two newspapers in each county. He was a slender, smoothly-shaven, neatly-dressed young man, with not much color in his face, having a half-clerical sort of look. He had won a foremost place in the Iowa Constitutional Convention of the year before, as I heard frequently mentioned. I found him somewhat conservative in expression, though inclined to know all the whys and wherefores relating to the measure.

B. F. Gue, one of the members from Scott, full-bearded, red-cheeked, fine-looking, on the hither side of 30, was a man of mark in that body.

"Ed Wright, of Cedar," was as noted then for the thoroughness with which he transacted business as at any subsequent period of his life. He was the best informed man in the House on parliamentary law, and whenever that body got into a tangle, he had the address, coolness, and knowledge, so necessary to straighten out the kinks.

But next to our own representative, the man of whom my memory is clearest, was Thomas Drummond, of Benton county. He was then editing *The Eagle*, which was one of the best-known county-seat papers in the State. Tom, as everybody called him, could not have been older than twenty-five, and he may have lacked even a year or two of that. He was of slender build, rather above the medium height; his hair was as black as a raven's wing; his complexion rather dark, and his eyes like jet: he had a bright, laughing eye, but it flashed like fire when provoked to anger. I have often heard it said that he claimed descent from Pocahontas, though I never heard him allude to the matter. I remember, however, that he was occasionally mentioned by editors with whom he had newspaper tilts, as "Mrs. Pocahontas." I first met him at the Scott House, a favorite boarding-place with the members. I believe it stood not far from the office of the *Daily Capital*. It was kept by Alexander Scott, who donated to the State a portion of the ground upon which our beautiful capitol now stands. Tom freely used what Gen. Fitz Henry Warren afterwards called "the energetic idiom"—in fact, he "swore like a trooper." When I was first introduced to him he gave me "a piece of his mind," and with a degree of emphasis which I have never forgotten. The point was this: I had warmly supported Governor Grimes for United States Senator, believing—and I never have changed my mind on that point—that he was the greatest man in Iowa, and for that matter, in the Northwest. Tom had supported F. E. Bissell, of Dubuque, largely upon the ground that he was *a northern man*, while

Grimes lived in Burlington, not far from Mt. Pleasant, the home of Senator Harlan. Tom deprecated the idea of giving all these offices to men living "down in the pocket." I did not care where the Senators lived—if they were the two ablest representative men in our State. I will not try to produce his language, but he gave me a "cussing" for not "standing up" with him for a northern United States Senator. "But for you and two or three other newspaper men," said he, "we could have had a Northern Senator." We both freed our minds on this topic of the day, neither convincing the other that he was wrong. I was under the distinct impression that I had "stood up." But I had a good time with Tom, and from that time until his death we were fast friends. I can scarcely account for this even now, for our habits were totally different. He was a wild youngster, indulging in sundry dissipations which I will not stop to particularize. But he was an impulsive, large-hearted, breezy, good fellow, whose eccentricities of behavior were always freely forgiven. Actions which would have irreparably ruined an average good character never affected him in the least. A cold bath in the morning banished all traces of a night's hilarities, and he came into the House in the morning in all the glory of high spirits, clear complexion, sparkling eyes and pearly teeth. Even the staid old Quaker members who only saw him on the floor, deemed him a model of all the proprieties. At the very worst, they only regarded him as "a little wild," but not more so than could be readily condoned in one whose other qualities made him so genial and companionable. He was a ready speaker and popular debater. Graceful in action, handsome in person, a born orator, thoroughly informed, as became a journalist, he was a man of mark, easily a leading member of the legislature, as I believe he would have been of the Congress of the United States, had he been chosen to that theater of usefulness.

During this session he secured the passage of the bill for the location of the Blind Asylum at Vinton. He may be regarded as the founder of that institution, and it certainly never had a more vigilant supporter or so eloquent a defender.

At the next session—1860—Drummond came to the Senate. Unusual efforts were put forth to build the Insane Asylum at Mt. Pleasant, and it was determined by the Republican majority to suspend work for the present on the Blind Asylum—in fact, to "sit down upon Tom Drummond." This awoke all the wrath that was in him. But his party counted its chickens before they were hatched. It had a majority of but three, including Tom Drummond. There were two members who would to-day be styled "mug-wumps." They voted with their party when it suited them, but could not be counted on at all times. They favored the appropriation for the Blind Asylum and were opposed to the other institution, unless both could be treated alike. The Democrats stood solidly by Tom, and he was therefore able to bring things to a dead-lock. The speech he made against the proposed action of his party, and in favor of "my Blind Asylum," as he called it, was one of the most powerful and scathing that ever woke the echoes in the old Capitol. Prominent Republicans, even Governor Kirkwood—besought Tom to give up the fight and not "block the wheels of legislation." But he was immovable and his friends sustained him. He boldly declared on the floor of the Senate that the Mt. Pleasant Asylum should not have a dollar, nor should any member have his per diem, unless the Blind

Asylum was taken care of. He carried the day and won his point. The Senate came down from its high horse and gave him the appropriation he asked for. The Blind Asylum went ahead, though the second story was unreasonably and awkwardly shortened in from the original plan, making a deformity of the beautiful edifice that Tom Drummond's foresight would have made of it. But if it is a benefit to the city of Vinton to have that great charity in its midst, the citizens should place within its grounds an enduring monument to the memory of their first citizen in those pioneer times.

Drummond had in him all the elements of the soldier. Possibly "he was sudden and quick in quarrel." He certainly would have been had he believed himself imposed upon in any way.

"He bore anger as the flint bears fire,
Which much enforced, shows a hasty spark,
And straight is cold again."

But it was as a soldier that he was destined to crown his life of usefulness and end his days. As soon as the first indications of the great civil war became visible he told his friends that he was "going into it." In February, 1861, he organized a military company in Vinton—being the first man to enlist. He left for Washington the same month, some two weeks before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Not long after reaching the Federal City he was offered a second lieutenancy in the United States regular cavalry. He was not long in reaching a captaincy, and at one time his lineal rank in the army was higher than that of Gen. Custer—and they were both in the same regiment. He was appointed lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth Iowa Cavalry, in which he served several months. Upon being mustered out of that regiment he returned to his own command only to be detailed for recruiting service, with headquarters at Cleveland, Ohio. He remained at his post, or in this duty, for over a year. But near the close of the struggle he was ordered into the field with his regiment, just in time to take his part in the battle of Five Forks, Virginia. In this engagement, when the fighting was really over, he was struck by a random shot and so severely wounded that he died during the following night. He was buried in the churchyard at Dinwiddie Court House, where his grave was seen by Cyrus C. Carpenter, afterward Governor of Iowa, who was a captain and commissary of subsistence in Sherman's army which marched from Atlanta to the Sea. At the time of his death I was taking *The New York Daily Tribune*, and in reading the account of the battle of Five Forks, I saw the announcement that Capt. T. Drummond had been mortally wounded and was dead. I marked and sent the paper to Hon. Frank W. Palmer, who was then publishing *The Des Moines Register*. In the issue of April 29, 1865, he printed the following paragraph:

"DEATH OF CAPTAIN DRUMMOND.—Yesterday we received a copy of a New York Daily, sent to us by a friend, containing a list of the killed and wounded in Sheridan's command, during the five days' fighting preceding the fall of Richmond and surrender of Lee. The name of Captain Drummond, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, was among the list of officers reported as mortally wounded, and on the margin of the paper was written: 'That is our poor Tom.' Our Iowa readers will remember Thomas Drummond, as editor of the *Vinton Eagle*, member of the House of Representatives from Benton county in the first General Assembly which convened in this city. He was subsequently elected Senator from that county and served during one session. When the war broke out, he was commissioned as a first Lieutenant in the Regular Army, and when the Fourth Iowa Cavalry was organized, he was commissioned as Lieutenant Colonel.

He served with this regiment several months, and was then transferred to the Fifth Regular Cavalry, in which he was promoted to the rank of Captain. This is the officer of whose death our friend now notifies us. We *hope* the information may not be well founded, but *fear* that it is. Captain Drummond had his faults, who has not? He was a devoted, self-sacrificing friend, an earnest, able advocate by tongue and pen of just principles, and a gallant defender of his country in the field. Peace to the memory of this brave Iowa soldier."

Thus perished "one of the bravest of the brave," freely giving his young life that our nation might live. He was one of the foremost of our rising Iowa politicians, one of our most able and versatile editors, one of our clearest-headed legislators. If he had glaring faults, he was also possessed of magnificent qualities of head and heart. Had he continued in civil life there can be no doubt that he would have attained higher recognition than that of State Senator. His nature was irrepressible, but his aims as a public man were praiseworthy in the highest degree. He contended for progress, improvement, education, substantial sympathy for the unfortunate classes—benevolence, charity, in their highest, noblest manifestation—sympathy for those most deeply afflicted.

I thank you for the opportunity you have given me, to place upon your records this humble tribute to my early friend. He was one whose memory should not be allowed to perish, but kept forever green in the Annals of Iowa.

The President then called upon Walter C. Wilson, of Webster City, who responded as follows:

In 1856 I was nominated for Representative from the territory which now composes some nineteen counties of the northwestern part of the State, with a majority of something over nine hundred against me. I carried the election by eighty-five votes. I attribute my success somewhat to the fact that the Capital was so remote that my opponent did not care to undertake so great an enterprise and so much hardship as he would have to undergo in reaching the Capital of the State. When it was time for the Legislature to meet, I found the undertaking was somewhat embarrassing myself, but after providing myself with a mule I rode to Marengo and thence by the Western Stage Company Line to Iowa City. I found myself embarrassed with a mule upon my hands, and wishing to make some disposition of the animal, I remarked that I thought I would have to make some person a present of the mule. There was a Jew in the company who said he would take him, but I said to him, being somewhat short of expense money, that I thought I would have to receive a small compensation, and finally agreed to part with the animal for \$80.

When I had reached Iowa City I was notified that my seat would be contested. I remarked then that I felt it was a mistake, as no man would venture an undertaking of that kind. I had received the votes of the whole northwest. My opponent never entered an appearance.

As a matter of history, I will tell you something of the organization of Hamilton county. I introduced a bill forming Hamilton county, which then comprised a portion of Webster county. When I introduced the bill I had Webster City designated as the county seat. My friend, W. T. Barker, suggested that it might be a mistake to designate Webster City as the county seat, as the custom had been to appoint commissioners to locate county

seats. I said to him that would not do; if the bill was passed I wanted something that would be to my own interest. I stated to him that I had named the new county Hamilton, which would bear the name of the President of the Senate, Hon. W. W. Hamilton, of Dubuque. He said he guessed that was right, and that would be sufficient to take care of it in the Senate, and we would undertake to take care of it in the House. The bill was introduced in the House and called up upon its first reading; the rules were suspended, and the bill read a second time and passed, and the title agreed to. It was immediately reported to the Senate by the Hon. W. P. Hepburn, Chief Clerk. Governor Kirkwood was then in the Senate. He asked to have the bill immediately taken up that had just been reported, as he understood it had some reference to the President of the Senate. The bill was taken up and read the first time, the rules were then suspended and the bill read a second time, title agreed to and passed, and referred to the committee on oysters, of which Judge Hamilton formed a very conspicuous part.

I might say to you, gentlemen, that the county of Hamilton and Webster City have been the pride of my life, having been a citizen of Hamilton county for some forty years. The town of Webster City is now a town of some 4,500 inhabitants. At the time it took the name of Hamilton county it did not contain to exceed 100 inhabitants.

I wish to mention the names of some of the prominent members of the House and Senate. I will name W. T. Barker, of Dubuque, Mr. Cort, a gentleman by the name of Holmes, and the Speaker, Mr. McFarland. In the Senate W. W. Hamilton, Samuel J. Kirkwood, W. F. Coolbaugh, Mr. Grinnell, and Test of Council Bluffs. There were many bills passed, and some that we have always looked upon with pride, that, I feel were as essential to the welfare of Iowa as any laws that were passed before, or have been passed since that time. The disposition of our land grants, the railroads, and distributing the institutions of the State. I had the great pleasure of casting my vote for the removal of the Capital of the State of Iowa from Iowa City to Des Moines.

There was a bill introduced locating a blind asylum in Oskaloosa, Mahaska county. I moved to amend the bill by striking out "Oskaloosa, Mahaska county," and inserting "Webster City, Hamilton county," and came within three votes of locating the blind asylum at Webster City. My amendment failed, and we defeated the bill, and Vinton in the next Legislature following, secured that institution. I am very much pleased to know the institution was located in a pleasant and convenient part of the State, but I do think Webster City would have been much superior.

After the adjournment of the Legislature and on my arrival home, the first evening, a messenger came from Fort Dodge, notifying us that the citizens of Spirit Lake had been massacred by the Indians, and wishing us to send a party of men, fifty at least. We went to work, and had our company ready to leave at 9 o'clock the next morning. They met with two companies at Fort Dodge, and after a hard and tedious march, reached Spirit Lake just in time to bury the dead, and learned that the Indians had left. After their return, in about ten days, a messenger came rushing into Webster City saying that the Indians were coming down the Des Moines and Boone rivers, massacring the people, and the whole settlement on the Des Moines and Boone rivers rose in a body and fled for Fort Dodge and Web-

ster City. I immediately sent a messenger to Iowa City with all possible dispatch, requesting Governor Grimes to send us the whole arsenal of the State, that the Indians were massacring the settlers all along the Des Moines and Boone rivers. He sent me four boxes of muskets, and requested that I should receipt for same. I did so, and armed the settlers, and never had a greater trouble in my life than I had in regaining the arms and satisfying the receipt that I had given; but, as I am satisfied that the Governor meant to favor me, he accepted what I returned, and said he thought I had done nobly.

Our next experience was from Boone county the day after the report of the massacre. Judge McFarland and Captain McCall started with a company of one hundred men, taking teams, provisions, and everything that was necessary to cope with the Indians. When they came within five miles of our town we met them with a delegation and escorted them into town. Judge McFarland straightened himself up on his bay horse and said, "If you have any Indians, bring them on, the Boone tigers are here; we are ready for Indians." In answering the Judge, I said to him I didn't think there was an Indian within a thousand miles of us, but the people were scared, and I saw no way that I could prevent it. We appreciated their presence as fully as we could if there had been balls six inches thick upon our public square, and if the Indians or any other trouble befell Webster City we should know just where to go for assistance.

I thank you kindly, Mr. President, and Pioneer Law Makers of Iowa.

Adjourned to 1:30 P. M.

At 1:30 P. M. the Association was called to order by the President. Judge Noble said:

I desire to make a suggestion in regard to a slight change of programme, and I desire to call the attention of the Executive Board to a subject for consideration. Your present programme denies the opportunity, within the time allotted for our present exercises here, to give any attention to those of our friends who are now members of the legislative body, except it be a single moment of time that we may snatch from our constant attendance upon this meeting three times a day. We must either lessen our work, as I see it, or increase our time so as to make it three days instead of two. We ought to have one day for no other purpose than to visit the Capitol and the two Houses of Legislature, and to confer with our friends and Representatives and Senators upon matters of public importance, as we see and look upon it. Now you go to the Capitol and call upon the Governor, but there is no time for consultation as to the great public interests of our people. I desire to call attention to this and move in pursuance of that idea that the Executive Committee be required to inquire into the propriety of changing the programme so that it shall be three days instead of two, taking the middle day for visiting the Capitol, the members of the Legislature, and for communication with the Legislature.

We are called the old Pioneer Lawmakers, and those who are acquainted with the members of our Association expect to talk with us. They want to

have an opportunity to talk and confer with us in regard to what our people need at home, and what is proper to be done. We get no time for that at all. We have to go either on purpose for it, or else make provisions for it while here in our regular order of business. I move that the committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of a three days' session of the Pioneer Lawmakers instead of two as at present.

The motion was adopted.

Capt. I. W. Griffith said:

MR. PRESIDENT, I have the honor of introducing to you the Governor of Iowa, together with the Senate and House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth General Assembly.

The President said:

Governor of the great State of Iowa, with this hand I welcome you to these our deliberations, and I trust you will have an abundantly good time. And you, Mr. President of the Senate and Mr. Speaker of the House of Representatives, I receive you in the same way, and I want to assure you that you are to feel perfectly at home and anything not tendered you, you shall have if you ask and it is in our power to give.

One of the members of our early legislature used to commence even a talk of two minutes with a preface and start out by quoting an "incontrovertible proposition." That was a good many years ago. I have often thought, how on earth could he preface anything in this way. I remember also that prince among men, one of the most successful legislators, and one of the most useful men the State ever had, Josiah B. Grinnell, who at two of our meetings at least, when we waited upon the General Assembly, in both houses said to them: "Gentlemen, you are the finest body of men I have ever seen assembled in the State of Iowa as a Legislature." So if I were to state that incontrovertible proposition I would be following him. "Gentlemen, you are the finest set of men I have ever seen in the State of Iowa." But I used to controvert that point with him and insist that it was not true when he was in the Legislature. If you go back to 1848-50 when Judge Cassidy and myself were young men in the Assembly you will see the ground of my objection—oh no, not at all—that won't do. But I will repeat what I said, that the incontrovertible proposition is, that you are a good looking set of men (that its like) at least when judged by your presiding officers. [Laughter.]

Now, we are exceedingly glad to see you this afternoon. We are sorry you could not all come. We had places for all of you, and you have places in our hearts. It is true that there are some old men around you who have passed through the heat and burden of the day. They can hardly realize that they come up here every two years for the purpose of seeing young men like you still engaged in the work. But they come with the greatest pleasure every two years, and there are few things that give them greater pleasure than to come over to the Capitol and to receive you as we do here.

On behalf of the Association, I welcome you. They representing the past, and you representing the present. And although they represent the past, they are not indifferent to the present; they are not out of the present by any means, but they propose to labor and struggle for the benefit and

upbuilding of this great State of which you heard so much yesterday, making it better and better. Some one has said that the man who undertakes to step from his tombstone to Heaven would make a mistake, unless there is more than usual, and deservedly so, on his tombstone. No, it is the life we live, the work we do. It is our adherence to what is right—our devotion to it, our devotion to the truth, our devotion to virtue. It is this that insures us a stepping stone; that takes us up the highest ladder on earth, and, as I said yesterday, brings us nearer and nearer to our home in the skies. The cars came thundering through the mountains—deep is the cut and dangerous the place. Near by, as the cars came thundering on, was the young brother and sister in danger; no means of escape. As the train came nearer and nearer, he says, "Sister, keep close to the rock and we shall be safe"—and in the cleft of the rock they were safe as the cars thundered through. So in life; keep near to the Rock, higher than all. Then the tombstone does not make so much difference; it does not matter whether there is any at all, or what may be upon it. That goes for nothing.

I welcome you and I greet you, Governor Jackson. I welcome you as the representative of the State. We are exceedingly happy to see you this afternoon. You, also, Representatives and Senators, we welcome you, and trust your remaining with us may be pleasant. We trust that some of the young men who are here with us may have something to say, and we shall also be pleased to hear from the Governor and those whom these two presiding officers may be pleased to call from your bodies.

The chairman said:

The next thing in order is a word from Governor Jackson, whom I now have the honor of introducing.

Governor Jackson said:

MR. PRESIDENT, PIONEER LAW-MAKERS AND FELLOW CITIZENS—I agree that it is a matter of deep gratification to me to have the pleasure and honor of being present a few moments at your deliberations. I was impressed with the remarks which your president has just made in regard to the history written across the tombstone. I want to say to you Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, that it seems to me, if I read the history correctly and rightly, that there should be no anxiety in your minds as to what history will be written across the tombstone of early Pioneer Law-Makers of our State. That history is found in the foundation of our state institutions of which we are all so proud; that history is found in the laying of that foundation demanded in the laws of our State by which this magnificent State has developed, progressed and prospered to a greater extent than any other state that constitutes this great union of ours.

Let me assure you that the history of the Iowa Law-Makers is written in the hearts of more than two millions of Iowa people, who are grateful for the laying of the magnificent foundation by which this great commonwealth has been built. I assure you that I feel it a great honor, not only upon this occasion, but any other, to be present and meet with the gentlemen who have given their lives in the past, who have given their best energies to the perpetuation and upbuilding of this magnificent State.

The Chairman said:

This gentleman to my left who belongs to us, but whom we have loaned to you for the present, we want to hear a word from.

Lieutenant-Governor Dungan said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION—I have but a word at this time, but I do desire to say that word. I have been thinking of what was said yesterday, and what has doubtless been said here, and what the people of Des Moines have said in receiving these old veteran Law-Makers. Looking back to the past with so much thankfulness for what has been done, the question occurred to my mind, while that is all true the present is the supreme hour in the history of any State on any proposition that may be made for the well-being of the people. The past remains irrevocable; the future depends upon the present integrity and honesty of the present actors on the stage; the past is for our example. The future is for you, and you have the advantage of the past, but the present is supreme over the past, because the future depends so much upon the action of the present and the wisdom of the past. And the history of the times expect that you will so utilize the present that you may, if possible, be of service to the future. This is the one thought I desire to express. I suppose my friend, Judge Fairall, if he is here, has told you all about it; but I have no time to refer to these matters as I would like to if I had met with you during your sitting. I thank you.

The President said:

We will now hear from the head of the most numerous body of the State, a man who has a pretty *hard name*, but who does exceedingly well under all the circumstances.

Speaker Stone said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND PIONEER LAW-MAKERS OF IOWA—I am indeed, very glad to be with you on this occasion. I regret exceedingly that there are no more members of the House of Representatives here to participate in your deliberations this afternoon than there are. But I want to say that body over which I have the honor of presiding is a laborious and working body. They desired very much to be present with you this afternoon, but they said, "we have work to do; we have our committees to attend to, and that is of superior importance." We like to enjoy ourselves socially; we like to meet the distinguished citizens who, above all men, are responsible for the grand State of Iowa. We like to associate with you, but we are engaged in arduous labors and as many of us as could will be present with you, but I regret to say that there are only a few who found it possible to be here to-day. I think that the gentlemen composing this Association are fortunate beyond all men. It takes centuries to grow, but those who took part in the founding of the States and our Nation really have left to us the completest structure. It is the happy fortune of the gentlemen whom I am now addressing, to see Iowa start from almost nothing and become the foremost State in the magnificent galaxy of States in the Nation, and you, gentlemen,

should be proud of the structure you have reared; you have turned over to the younger generation of citizens of Iowa a noble work, and I assure you it is the purpose and intention of those with whom I am associated to-day to perpetuate the work which you have started in such a glorious manner.

Judge Wright said:

Before we hear further from the gentlemen who represent the two houses, I want to present a gentleman who will talk to you just a few minutes. He was a member of the Third General Assembly; of the Senate with me. I was the youngest member and he was the oldest.

Judge Casady said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—I have not a speech written out, but I have a map I wish to show to the gentlemen. The old Pioneer Law-Makers are something like soldiers when they meet together and fight over the old battles again. We speak of the things that occurred in our time. I speak of the times when I was a member. Judge Wright speaks of the time when it took two men to represent Van Buren county; I speak to you of the time when I represented nine counties; Madison, Warren, Marion, Dallas, Polk, Jasper, Marshall, Story and Boone, and the country north and northwest. When I arrived at Iowa City, I lived thirty-five miles further west than any other member of either branch of the General Assembly. There were something over fifty counties organized and their boundaries defined, and the rest was a blank, every particle of it. I introduced a bill to define the boundaries of this county, and that finally made out sixty counties in the Third General Assembly.

There were fifty-five men who came to Dallas county and they were Mormons, and they all voted against me because I was not sound on the Mormon religion, but by some kind of an accident I was elected.

I will say that in that session of 1851, there was the great question of passing the code. We talked code in the morning at breakfast and talked code at noon and talked code at night; everybody talked code. I will say that Judge Wright was one of the principal men on the code committee. I was putting in lots of time on the question of boundaries of counties. I will say another thing that may be a surprise. Judge Wright has always been ashamed to mention it. That committee worked fifteen days at one dollar a day and the judge has been ashamed that he would stay there fifteen days and pay his own board. I will say further that at this session the Homestead Law was passed. It was in the code. It has come down to us from that time, some forty-three years. Some of the present members have made an attack upon it, but I think it will go through. That law was passed in 1851, and I suppose attempts have been made to change it at every session; but it still stands, and perhaps about the only thing that stands in that code is the Homestead Law of 1851. I am still in favor of that law, although you may make some changes at this session. Judge Wright made a speech in favor of its adoption. I remember talking to one man who said I had made up my mind to vote for it, but it will be repealed at the next session of the Legislature; the people will not stand anything of the kind, but it still stands as a law of the State.

Now, gentlemen, we have Judge Wright here, and others, to make welcome speeches. We are all glad to see you, and, as I said, we have to go back and talk over these old matters, because they occur to us as we are looking back. We are not looking forward as you gentlemen who are before me. I will refer to but one other matter. One of the members in the House of Representatives stated he was elected Speaker from Clayton, and Fisher was elected President of the Senate from the same county, and he stated that it was the only time it occurred that both offices went to one county. In the Third General Assembly Enos Lowe was President of the Senate and Major Temple was Speaker of the House of Representatives; both resided in Burlington. I ask the Judge's pardon for referring to that fact, because we want to keep the history as straight as we can. I understood that Judge Wright says no man is to talk longer than two minutes, excepting himself. I only wish to exhibit this map to show you the counties the Third General Assembly was made up from, fifty counties. I will not say anything further, but thank you for your attention.

Judge Wright said:

I will never get caught so again. Judge Casady came to me this morning and said he would like to have the opportunity of saying a few words. He talked about two Senators from Van Buren county, and one from Polk, etc. I will say, I knew every man in Van Buren county that voted for me, and he only one man in a hundred, and hence was elected!

Col. Godfrey said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—I do not suppose I have anything especial to say this afternoon. You forbade us yesterday talking about Iowa and its greatness; that injunction was hardly necessary for me, because I concluded about three years ago I would never say anything about Iowa, and especially I would never tell the truth about Iowa, and I will tell you why I came to that conclusion. As you are aware, Mr. Chairman, my duties have taken me out of the State for the last eight or ten years, and consequently I have been in Salt Lake City during the past year. There I met a great many Hawkeyes, as you find them everywhere. There are so many there they have formed an organization and called it the Iowa Organization, and they have a membership of somewhere between 200 and 300; they have their annual meeting in the winter, inviting all the Iowans to banquet speeches. I have attended one or two of these meetings. Three years ago I got an invitation. I was not in Salt Lake City; I was at home, and found it would not be convenient to attend, and thought I would write them a letter, as a great many gentlemen have written letters to that organization that could not be present. I sat down and wrote a letter. I had been reading the statistics of Iowa and the crops, and I thought it would be interesting to the people of Utah to know what Iowa was doing. I embodied some of the statistics that I had been reading. I told them they ought to be thankful that they had ever lived in a State like Iowa, one so far in advance in all that went to the comfort of mankind. I told them we had just harvested 335,000,000 bushels of corn, worth \$125,000,000. I also told them the number of bushels of wheat, and what it was worth, and oats, rye, barley and flax, and the value of our horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, wool,

butter, cheese, poultry, and all that, making a grand total output of the state of Iowa of over \$400,000,000 in one year. I took it from the statistics. Thus far I know, and what I now relate I only heard. I mailed the letter and it was read at the meeting, and I am informed that when it was read when they got into the statistics they just stamped and cheered, and some good friend of mine moved a vote of thanks for the letter and its information, and some gentlemen moved an amendment; he said he had no objection to a vote of thanks, but said he would make an amendment and moved I should be crowned the monumental liar of Iowa. So you see I got a reputation by telling the truth as I got it from reports in the newspapers. I took the report and sent it to them and have been crowned the monumental liar of Iowa. So it is not necessary to caution me about talking about the resources of Iowa. I am done with it. Other gentlemen can talk about it if they choose. But I am glad to meet the old pioneers. I was especially glad this morning when one of the members referred to an old member of this organization. I refer to Elijah Sells, former Secretary of State and who now lives at Salt Lake City and who, during President Harrison's administration, was secretary at Salt Lake. He is the first man, except Judge Cole, that I became acquainted with in Des Moines, and I have known him ever since. He wanted me to say to this society that he received the invitation and present his kindest regards to each and every member of the old Pioneer Law-Makers Association. I was glad when he was referred to in such kind terms. Notwithstanding he was not in the early Legislature of this State, yet he was hardly equalled and not surpassed by any member of this organization; he requested me to present his compliments and asked me to especially remember him to the members of this organization.

The Chairman said:

I trust the Honorable President of the Senate will call out such members of the body as he desires to hear from.

Governor Dungan said:

Your president thinks that all the good in Iowa comes from Van Buren county. One of the oldest senators of the present General Assembly, Senator Vale, comes from that county. We will hear from Senator Vale.

Senator Vale said:

GENTLEMEN.—You are accustomed to surprises, and no doubt you will be surprised if I attempt to speak. You recognize the fact that we are not all built alike in Van Buren county, and we experimented with these public speakers to such an extent that we became heartily discouraged with our efforts in that direction, and shipped them to other parts of the State, as we want to deal with a more substantial class of men; men who are better rooted and grounded at home, and that want to even do better. Now we all recognize the fact that Judge Wright has intimated to you that every distinguished man Van Buren county has furnished, and it is a good place to come from. In consequence of that fact I want to say to you, gentlemen, that we now regard it as a grander and better place to remain, and we propose to remain in Van Buren county as long as the good Lord will let us.

I entertain very kindly feelings and very kindly sympathy for the gentlemen who constitute this organization. I regret exceedingly I was not in time to hear the paper from Senator Beardsley on the Thirteenth General Assembly. My acquaintance with the assemblies of Iowa—the past assemblies of Iowa—depends largely upon that personal touch with which I came in contact with those past assemblies, and my good father having been a member of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies and the session of 1873, I was as familiar with all the workings of that Assembly as I am with the present. I have, at my rooms at this time, the whole pile of what General Wright called the “rogues gallery”—the pictures of the members of that Assembly. I look over those pictures with a great deal of interest; I see some resemblance in those pictures to some of these gentlemen present; I recognize the fact that those were great and important days—important occasions; I remember well the fact of the tussle that was had, looking toward the building of the present State House; I remember the tussle these gentlemen had over the question of female suffrage; I remember in the Fourteenth General Assembly the tussle that was had to get this foundation stone, etc. Suffice it to say that, youth as I was at that time, and I am only a youth yet, I remember the circumstances, the things that transpired then, simply by reading and listening to what was transpiring as vividly, probably more vividly, than I do those things that have transpired in comparatively recent years. I want to say that it is always the case that the student who enters perhaps the junior class in college looks up to the seeming dizzy height of the seniors and those who are to graduate with wonderful awe—wonderful veneration, feeling that he may hardly ever dare to ascend those heights; but as he advanced thitherward himself those heights seem to come nearer to him—in seeing them dwindle into insignificance until they come nearer and nearer to him, until, at last, possibly, if he is ever so fortunate as to reach the heights himself, he realizes to his heart's content that there is not as much in it as he supposes. I mean simply that you gentlemen have the knack for which God created you, and you did your work nobly and well. I trust we may do the work equally as well so that possibly some one in the future may be so infatuated with the achievements of the present General Assembly that they may be able to say some good things of us, as we are warranted in saying of you, gentlemen.

The President here said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE ASSOCIATION—I regret that the engagements of the Governor are such that he feels compelled to leave. I am sure that public business demands his return to his office, therefore, Governor, we will excuse you.

Speaker Stone said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—When you gentlemen were legislating for Iowa there was a vast region in the northwest part of the State which was then unknown to you; that now is the home of enterprising citizens, and the land is filled with cities and wealth. We have, as the representative of that district, the Hon. E. D. Chassell.

Mr. Chassell said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND PIONEER LAW-MAKERS—It is indeed an honor to be the guest of this assembly of patriarchal patriots, and it is a privilege which we men of this late generation are happy to enjoy. As Speaker Stone has told you I am here to represent, as best I may, a small part of northwestern Iowa, the county of Plymouth. It is part of the great blank space on the map shown by Judge Casady, the venerable gentlemen who once represented that then trailless wild which has since been formed into forty-nine of the State's most wealthy counties. If I should attempt, in a feeble way, to tell you of the changes and development that have come since the pioneer days when they were designated by a blank space on the map, you would be likely to compliment me with a resolution like the one with which my other friend, Col. Godfrey here, was honored in Utah—with being a colossal fabrication. If your sense of courtesy to a guest ruled the resolution out of order, you would mentally conclude that my early life had been spent in the study of the classics of Baron Munchausen.

Speaking as one of the younger entered apprentices of the Legislative fraternity on Capitol Hill, I am glad to acknowledge the pride with which we, who are now taking our first footsteps in legislative experience, regard you, our able predecessors. We are trying to sustain the State whose foundations you laid so well. It is eminently fitting that these meetings of the Pioneer Law-Makers should be held during the Legislative sessions, because the boys of to-day can profit by the experience of you boys of yesterday.

We have looked with eyes of longing upon these badges you wear, and calculated the years that we will need to wait before the lapels of our coats can bear the same emblems. We know that those decorations are not obtained by political intrigue or personal favoritism, but like the iron cross of the German Emperor, are bestowed only upon those who have rightfully earned them.

"It was twenty-six years ago that I served my first term in the General Assembly," said a man with one of those badges to me to-day. Twenty-six years ago—how well I remember that time for it was then that as a small boy I came to Iowa with my father's family. We came to the end of the railroad and stopped and took a steamboat to cross the great river on the eastern boundary. Then we rode to the end of an Iowa railroad and stopped again and took a humble wagon. We went out on a trail through the prairie grass until we came to the end of that and stopped again, this time to stay at a prairie farm, where the wolf and the prairie chicken were our most intimate neighbors. And that was in central Iowa. But, gentlemen, by the sinister gleam in the President's eye, I see that he is about to put into execution the threat of yesterday, to shoot on the spot any man who brags about the great State of Iowa. I will desist, but look around you and your own vision will paint for you the picture in stronger colors than I could draw it.

It is said that "the evil men do lives after them but the good they do is oft interred with their bones." I am sure that there is not land enough in Iowa to dig graves long enough and broad enough and deep enough to inter with our pioneer law-makers the good that they have done.

We, your guests, are looking forward to the time when we will meet as you do. Then we will call our Democratic brethren over from their little Cherokee strip to our Republican land of Caanan, to a land that flows with milk and beet sugar. All our little partisan differences will be forgotten and we will tell the boys who come to greet us of the good times we used to have.

When that time comes we hope that it can be truthfully said that the laws we enacted were fair to men and women of all classes; that we have not specially favored the rich nor wronged the poor, that our work has been to better the moral as well as the commercial prosperity of the State we all love so well; and to make the bright star Iowa shine more brilliant than ever in the constellation of the Union.

Col. Myers, who was called upon, said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—I feel first-rate. I believe I was born in just the right time. I was in the army in various battles, and I do not wish or desire to be in any other place, because I might have been shot; but I feel first-rate, because I live in this great State of Iowa. I am sorry I cannot boast of having spread over so much territory as some of my friends who have been speaking, and who represented one-fourth of the State. I would not have been sufficient for that much—spreading over so much I would have been too thin. Those gentlemen who represented the State prior to myself were capable of doing it. I am glad to know you all feel we have a great State; I am glad to know that you appreciate it; I am glad to know that all the adjectives in the English language can be exhausted, and you have not said all that can be said about the State of Iowa, because they are not sufficient; I am glad to know that there is no place in God's world where, within such territory, there has been such progress made as in the State of Iowa; it stands the peer of all that has ever been in the history of the world, in intelligence, in wealth, in all that ennobles manhood and womanhood. I am afraid I have talked too long; I am afraid I have trespassed a little out of the ordinary course, because while I feel so good, there has been something said that pains me. When you say our State develops and goes on in grandeur and has three hundred and thirty-five million bushels of grain, which I suppose is true, no place in the world or State in the Union has ever seen any such production, and it will make one hundred and fifty bushels of grain to every man, woman and child in the State, and over four bushels of grain to every man in the whole United States. It is a grand thing. I am sorry to have any of our members making such statements. I am afraid he will have to be brought before the bar and made to promise he will not tell it any more. He forgot George Washington and his hatchet. It won't do. I believe in the old Methodist way of doing things. I do not know but it was in the meeting where our honorable chairman was when it happened that they became very enthusiastic in the prayer meeting. Every once in a while some member would say "amen" to everything that was said, no matter whether it was appropriate or not; "amen" was said to everything. His minister took him to task one day and he said he would try to do better. The next time they had a prayer meeting they all got enthused with the spirit and everybody seemed to be praying until he said, "amen, hit or miss." And so it seems to me we ought to say "amen" to

this great State of Iowa, "hit or miss." I am sorry that we cannot have a monument built to our friends, but I will tell you why we cannot have monuments: that is not what makes the world move, it is the spirit we put into things. In the army in 1864, when they went through the county and city where John Brown was tried and hung, the boys would strike up the old John Brown song.

"John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave,
His soul is marching on," etc.,

both old and young.

It is the grandest consolation and grandest opportunity we have to put our souls in the movements and into the things that surround us, and if the members of our Legislatures will put their souls in the laws, we will have grand movements and grand conditions in the State of Iowa, and the influence will go on and on after we go down to our graves. Like John Brown's soul, we shall not have lived in vain. We influence our times, and the spirit of our generation will be catching to the younger ones coming on, and so these pioneer lawmakers, I hope, have, in their feeble way, put enthusiasm in the young men here. While I regret the absence of the members of the House, and I see many of them to-day, I hope their idea is to put their souls into the work and help to make this State a power in the States of this Nation, and the center and hub of the whole world.

Owen Bromley said:

MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION, AND MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY—The first time I saw your President was the 10th of August, 1860, and I am in some way inclined to think that as I became a member of the Tenth General Assembly, I am somewhat indebted to him. I was speaking—there were two stands at the same time—I never thought at all that I was fit—I never was a young man, but as I saw at a distance, a gentleman stand and listen to me who stood and listened during the whole of the speech—I think that Gov. Grimes was speaking on the opposite side of the stand—I began to think I was "some pumpkins." Some people began to tell me I was up for the Legislature. Some began to tell me that by and by I would get there, and I thought I would not get there from Van Buren county, as I heard that my distinguished friend here had a great many warm and intimate acquaintances. So I thought the best thing I could do was to migrate from there to Jefferson county. Then there was another reason for leaving Van Buren county. There were some people there who were a little bit afraid of me, and I was a little bit afraid of them, too. Among the number—the present distinguished gentleman from Van Buren—I never hinted it to him—his father was a gentleman whom I admired very much, and he was afraid of me and I was afraid of him, and so I emigrated from there to Jefferson county, and so I had not been there long before I became a member of the Legislature and no man was more glad of it than the father of the gentleman from Van Buren county; he was glad I became a member. I do not know whether it was because I was out of his way or not, but anyway it turned out good for both of us. I do not know whether I became a member because I left, or whether his father became a member because I left.

I am glad I am a citizen of the State of Iowa. I was born poor. It cost me something to come over to this country. There are a great many people

that it don't cost them anything to come to this country. I am glad for having come; I am glad to be a citizen of the State of Iowa. I like Iowa because of the number of things I won't mention, but let me say this to the members of the Legislature, especially to the younger portion of them, never let it be said of you as it was said of the children of Israel, when they had to suffer in consequence of some of their actions, "they forgot the God of their fathers." If we could only impress this upon the young members of the Legislature, and upon the young people of this country, to never forget the God of their fathers, I think it would be well for us all. I am inclined to think sometimes that there is a tendency in the times to turn their heads sometimes and thus forget the God of their fathers and go astray, and the consequences are they get in a great many errors and are not able to live or talk up to the right mark. I am not going to discuss politics, but there are some serious problems affecting the people to-day. Here are the people of the United States—there has been a period during which the population of the United States increased 22 per cent and crime and pauperism have increased 45 per cent. This is a serious question. Unrest is increasing, terrible evils are surrounding us; the question is engaging the people of what is to become of the unemployed. They have to be fed. As I was coming up the street this morning I saw a woman whose name was in the paper this morning, Mrs. Gibson, who applied for work. It is said she had a sick husband and six children and a team, and the husband could not use the team as he was sick and she came for work. They told her to go to the proper officers for relief. When I was coming up to the meeting this morning I saw her and asked if she was Mrs. Gibson, and she said "I am." And I said that there was a piece in the paper, I want to know if it is a fake; and she says, "I must have something to do for my family." She emphasized the "must." When I spoke to my friend Casady he said, "certainly they won't allow her to work on the streets." He said before she should do the work on the streets he would see that she should have work—before she should disgrace the city of Des Moines. I believe I could make a speech if there was time. I am glad of the opportunity; I am glad to have said what I said. I will say in conclusion, be men for the time, meeting the needs of the times; men of determination; men of will; men of courage, and when you have to meet the greater and more important questions, don't be cowards.

The President said:

That now ends the program for this afternoon, and I now leave it to you to say, gentlemen, who shall be heard from. I do not like to call out any one because they always preface by saying they are taken by surprise, when I know they are not.

Col. Moore said:

MR. CHAIRMAN—I feel that it is due to the Hairy Nation that I make a few remarks touching upon what has been said in reference to the Hairy Nation. I felt a little bit aggrieved and had no opportunity to reply to our worthy President while over at the new Capitol, when he very singularly remarked in that smooth way of his, that he would have no reference made to the grand, distinguished sons of Iowa, and Iowa itself. He referred to

the Senators from Van Buren and Davis counties, and thought perhaps they would often speak of Van Buren and Davis counties as a part of this great and glorious State of Iowa. He was a little facetious, and I want to set the mind of our good President at rest by saying that there has been indeed a wonderful change come over the Hairy Nation since he used to come through that part of the Hairy Nation and sit down and talk with our people by the light of the tallow dip. A wonderful change has come over the Hairy Nation since the days when our people came there for the express purpose of building homes for themselves and their children. It was indeed for us a Hairy Nation, but these times have passed and gone by, and the rude cabin has given way to the stately mansion with its smoothly rolling gravel walks winding gracefully through the groves and flowery shrubs, while the early pioneer sits with slippered feet and listens to the prattling streams from the fountain that make music as sweet as it was ever the lot of man to hear. That is Davis county! And we want to invite our President, when he comes down there, to see the difference, the change that has come over our people; where every foot of land is capable of cultivation; where the farmer gathers his sheaves of ripened grain as he sings his harvest song.

Governor Gue said:

As Chairman of the Committee on Invitations, I have received some very interesting letters from some of our honored members, and I will read the names and turn them over to the Secretary for publication.

The Chairman said:

If there is no objection these letters will go to the Secretary for publication in the minutes of our proceedings.

It is so ordered.

Judge Wright said:

I want to say to you that in all respects I regard this much the best, most profitable and interesting of all the meetings we have had. I think the papers in all respects have been better, and this with all due respect to those who have given papers before. I beg to assure these gentlemen of the General Assembly that they are full of interest connected with the history of Iowa. There are few things that would be of more interest to the people of Iowa, and do more for the preservation of the history of Iowa than the publication of these papers. I trust there will be no doubt that the General Assembly will do as they have done in former years, provide for the publication of these proceedings, and for their binding. Many gentlemen, eminently able to do the work, have furnished papers and read them or sent them to us, and I therefore congratulate you, gentlemen, that our meeting has been so prosperous and beneficial to the State.

The Association here joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne," after which the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

INTERESTING STATISTICS.

The following was sent to the President after adjournment, which is of sufficient interest to warrant publication with the proceedings of the Association:

GEORGE G. WRIGHT, *Des Moines, Iowa.*

DEAR SIR—Since my return from our very pleasant and successful reunion, I have gone over the records of the past and now enclose you three sheets, one giving the survivors of the several departments during Territorial times, the second the survivors of the Territorial Legislature. It may be possible that there are some other living members, whose names I have not entered. I have entered for 1842 the name of Isaac Lewis, who resided in Van Buren county, but removed to Missouri. He was living and I met him at Keosauqua, when I went to deliver an address at the Pioneers Association. On the third sheet I have given the names of members and officers of the Second Territorial Convention 1844-46. I am not positive that Thomas J. McKean is living, though he was a year or so ago and I think he is still living.

I think, Judge, it would be well to publish in our forthcoming proceedings, these papers or the substance of their contents, so we might know the few living members of Territorial times and then watch the progress of events to note deceases as they occur. It will assist you in the preparation of your address for our next meeting. I therefore enclose papers to you to make such use of as you please.

Judge Fellows of Lansing is with me to-day and expressed his regret that he could not have been with us at Des Moines last week. The recollections of the week will be a pleasant spot in my memory while memory lasts.

I trust you and family are well and be ready for subsequent reunions.

Very truly yours,

T. S. PARVIN.

TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT OF IOWA, 1838-46.

SURVIVORS.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

T. S. Parvin, Private Secretary to Governor Lucas, 1833-39. First Territorial Librarian, 1839, appointed by the Governor.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

T. S. Parvin, District Attorney Territory, 1839-40.

Governors, Secretaries, Auditors, Treasurers, Representatives in Congress, Judges, Clerks, Marshals United States, and Territorial District Attorneys (except Parvin), Reporters, etc., all deceased; Legislators, all except seven; Members first two Constitutional Conventions, all except five.

SURVIVORS OF THE TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURES 1-8, 1838-45.

FIRST, 1838.—*November.*

1.—Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, Van Buren County, House Representatives, Vernon, Iowa.

SECOND, 1839.

Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, Van Buren County, House Representatives, Vernon, Iowa.

THIRD, 1840.

Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, Van Buren County, Council, Vernon, Iowa.

2.—Judge Francis Springer, Louisa County, Council- Albuquerque, New Mexico.

3.—Daniel F. Miller, Lee County, House Representatives. Keokuk, Iowa.

4.—Alfred Hebard, Des Moines County, House Representatives, Red Oak, Iowa.

FOURTH, 1841.

Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, Van Buren County, Council, Vernon, Iowa.

Alfred Hebard, Des Moines County, House Representatives, Red Oak, Iowa.

5.—Caleb H. Booth, Dubuque County, House Representatives, Dubuque, Iowa.

FIFTH, 1842.

Judge Francis Springer, Louisa County, Council, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

SIXTH, 1843.

Judge Francis Springer, Louisa County, Council, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Alfred Hebard, Des Moines County, House Representatives, Red Oak, Iowa.

6.—Robert Smythe, Linn County. House Representatives, Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

7.—Gen'l Wm. Thompson, Henry County, House Representatives, Bismarck, N. D.

SEVENTH, 1844.—*May.*

8.—Judge Sam'l Murdock, Clayton County, House Representatives, Elkader, Iowa.

9.—Frederick Hancock, Van Buren County, House Rep's'nt's, Bentonsport, Iowa.

EIGHTH, 1845.—*December.*

Judge Sam'l Murdock, Clayton County, House Representatives, Elkader, Iowa.

OFFICERS.

T. S. Parvin, Secretary Council 1840, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Judge John F. Kinney, Secretary Council 1845, San Diego, California

Gen'l William Thompson, Chief Clerk House Representatives, 1845, Bismarck, N. D.

SURVIVORS OF THE FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, 1844.

Dr. Gideon S. Bailey, Van Buren County, Vernon, Iowa.

Judge Thomas J. McKean, Linn County, Anamosa, Iowa.

Richard B. Wykeoff, Jackson County, Lyons, Iowa.

Elijah Sells, Muscatine County, Salt Lake, Utah.

J. C. Blankinship, Bloomfield, Iowa.

SECOND CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, 1846.

Hon. Alvin Saunders, Henry County, Omaha, Nebraska.

Judge J. Scott Richman, Muscatine County, Muscatine, Iowa.

Dr. Sylvester G. Matson, Jones County, Viola, Iowa.

John J. Sellman, Bloomfield, Iowa.

Gen'l William Thompson, Secretary, Henry County, Bismarck, N. D.

LETTERS FROM ABSENT MEMBERS.

HON. JOHN A. KASSON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 8, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, of the Executive Committee:

DEAR GOVERNOR GUE—I have received your invitation to be present with the Pioneer Law-makers Association at their Fourth Reunion. It has long been my purpose to be with them on this occasion; but a severe influenza, from which I have just recovered by means of a visit to the South, has compelled me to forego the journey homeward to Des Moines at this inclement season.

While many of my colleagues of the Twelfth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Assemblies have passed to other regions, including the unmapped country "beyond the river," many must still remain in the State they have helped to develop. It would be a great pleasure to take their hands once more, and to recall the stirring incidents of our legislative experience, especially the story of the founding of our State Capitol, which extended through all these assemblies. The meeting with our predecessors dating back to Territorial times would also be full of interesting recollections. I hope these reunions may be liberally supported by the presence of the fathers of the State. May the ennobling impulse which they gave to it in the direction of public education, of the Christian religion, of temperance, and of patriotic loyalty to the Union be forever maintained, and preserve to Iowa her greatness and her prosperity.

I am very truly yours, JOHN A. KASSON.

HON. JAMES F. WILSON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1894.

B. F. Gue, Esq., Chairman, Des Moines, Iowa:

MY DEAR SIR—I have received the invitation to be present at the Fourth Reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association of Iowa, on the 14th and 15th of February, for which I return you my thanks.

I should be glad, indeed, to be present on this occasion, but owing to my engagements here I am unable to do so. I sincerely hope that the occasion, as I am sure it will be, will be one thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Again thanking you for the invitation, I am yours truly,

JAMES F. WILSON.

HON. GEO. W. JONES.

DUBUQUE, IOWA, January 30, 1894.

Geo. G. Wright, President, Des Moines, Iowa:

MY VERY DEAR FRIEND—Your very kind letter of the 20th inst., and the program without day, have both been received and I thank you most sincerely for both of them. I am very grateful for your kind allusions to our beloved friends, Judge Casady and his noble son Simon. I am very glad to

hear that they and their families, and you and yours, are all enjoying excellent health and hope such may continue to be the case for all time to come. I fear I shall not be able to visit Des Moines to participate in the rich treat which you have prepared for the 14th and 15th prox.

Your grateful friend,

GEO. W. JONES.

HON. HIRAM PRICE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 3, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue:

DEAR SIR—By this day's mail I have your circular letter inviting me to be present at the Fourth Reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association on the 14th and 15th of this month. For this invitation I am much obliged, and if a railroad could convey me there in eight or ten hours I would gladly avail myself of the pleasure of being with you. But the eighty years behind me admonish me that what physical strength yet remains to me must be carefully husbanded. In 1853 I visited your city for the first time and tried to persuade the then citizens that a railroad could be built to that place. My statements were received with a good many grains of allowance. I think I recognize on your program a few names of persons who were then there, and it would be pleasant to greet them after these many years.

Very truly,

H. PRICE.

HON. JACKSON ORR.

DENVER, COLORADO, February 2, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue:

MY DEAR SIR—Your invitation to be present at the meeting of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association of Iowa, to be held at Des Moines on the 14th and 15th of this month, is received, and it gives me pleasure to find myself remembered in this connection, as well as to assure you that I can think of no assemblage at which it would give me more pleasure to be present. I regret that my duties here will not permit me to attend and have the opportunity of renewing old associations among the Iowa Law-Makers whom I have always pleasantly remembered.

Very respectfully yours,

JACKSON ORR.

HON. JOHN P. IRISH.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 6, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue:

DEAR SIR—I had lotted on attending the reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association of Iowa, but unexpected affairs here prevent. It would have been a pleasure to meet with the few survivors of the very earliest public bodies which laid, when the land was new, the foundations of the institutions under which I was born, and to greet also their successors who have nobly maintained the integrity of the earlier work. In recent years I have become familiar with all the commonwealths planted between the Missouri river and the Pacific ocean, and have been touched by the influence upon every one, exercised by the men of Iowa, and the strong infusion of their codes and court procedure, with the work of the law makers and the bench of my native State.

Iowa has been happy in her freedom from public scandals, in the uprightness and good example of her public life, and in the morality, humanity and character of her public men. I do not go too far in saying

that for these things of high credit she is indebted to the refined manhood of her law makers, transmitted into the justice of her laws.

Very truly,

JOHN P. IRISH.

HON. THOMAS HARDIE.

DUBUQUE, IOWA, February 7, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Chairman Committee on Invitations, Des Moines, Iowa:

DEAR SIR—Your invitation for the Fourth Reunion of the Pioneer Law-makers' Association of Iowa on the 14th and 15th insts. has been received, with thanks for your courtesy. I would be delighted to avail myself of the opportunity to meet with and renew my acquaintance with members of the Sixth and Ninth General Assemblies, but I am much in fear that official duties will, on the dates named, prevent my doing so. However, if I can possibly arrange matters so as to go, I will do so. Under any circumstances you have my best wishes for a profitable and happy meeting. If not present I would esteem it a great favor if you will send me one of the badges for preservation in my family.

Very respectfully,

THOMAS HARDIE.

HON. J. M. KENT.

CLARENCE, IOWA, February 7, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Chairman of Committee, etc.:

Your kind invitation to attend the Fourth Reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association was received on the 2d inst.

At first I thought, "yes, I will go." But this morning it seems doubtful whether I will be able to attend. I am now in my 80th year and feel well, but dare not expose myself to many changes of places, or seasons. Whether I come or not, my best regards to you, and all of the pioneers.

"Old Cedar,"

J.M. KENT.

HON. JOHN RUSSELL.

ONSLow, IOWA, February 13, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Des Moines, Iowa:

FRIEND GUE—I received your invitation to attend the meeting of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association to be held at Des Moines on the 14th and 15th insts.

I regret the fact, that I will now be unable to attend the meetings. I had thought of starting for it on yesterday evening, but the worst storm of the winter continued all day and had the effect of blockading the roads, so that I concluded it would be unadvisable for me to go. I have no doubt it will be a very interesting and enjoyable gathering to those who will have the pleasure of attending. I think it would be especially so to myself, as I notice that Col. Jed Lake is to deliver an address on the Legislature of 1862, and L. L. Ainsworth is to talk of the Senate of the same year. This would be very interesting to me, as that session was my first advent in Legislative experience. I had never before seen a Legislative body in session, and like most sensible greenhorns, found it necessary to observe and listen to the operations of those of some experience in previous Assemblies before I could safely take much part in the business of the session.

I can well remember many of those who were prominent in that important and historical session—many of them have gone to the spirit land and their voices will no more be heard in attempts to regulate and improve the

public affairs of this now great State. Rush Clark, the genial and model Speaker has long since departed this life, and left behind him a public record that will stand the test of criticism and approval. "Charlie Aldrich," our Chief Clerk, is still with us, as industrious as ever, and now devoting his remaining years to making a collection of material for the future historian to correctly guide him in writing up the early history of our noble State.

But a few weeks ago I read a notice of the death of an old friend, member of the House, as well as of other and later General Assemblies, J. Wilson Williams, of Des Moines county. He, Judge Mitchell, of Polk, and myself, were members of the Committee on Public Lands, and remained intimate friends ever afterward. Both of them have passed away and left behind them untarnished records and lives of public usefulness. Many others with whom I have been associated in this and later General Assemblies, have also passed away, whose associations will remain ever green in the memories of us all who yet survive.

Were it not that I might encroach on the grounds of my friend "*Sam*," now *Judge Fairall's* talk on the session of 1862, I would feel tempted to rehearse some of my own recollections of the stirring events that transpired in that memorable Assembly. He, or Jed Lake, will no doubt tell of that exciting episode which occurred when the news of the surrender of Fort Donaldson was received in the House. The Star Spangled Banner was sung by the whole Assembly standing—with a meaning that it never had before. "The spirit and the understanding" was in it all the way through.

General Baker was present, and when we were about to adjourn for a holiday afternoon, he mounted the Speaker's stand and moved that the prohibitory law be suspended for the balance of the day, which was done by general consent. Grand, patriotic, unselfish, genial, kindly, benevolent soul, he too, is numbered with the dead.

Very truly your friend and old associate,

JOHN RUSSELL.

HON. G. S. BAILEY.

VERNON, VAN BUREN COUNTY, IOWA, January, 27, 1894.

Hon. Geo. G. Wright:

DEAR SIR—Your kind letter inviting me to the Reunion at Des Moines on the 14th of February of the Pioneer Legislators of Iowa, was received in due time and I have delayed the reply, hoping I might be able to come, but, my dear sir, I feel that my physical condition is such that I would not be able to stand the excitement of meeting the old Pioneer Legislators. I am rather of a nervous temperament. I fear it would prostrate me. I will be eighty-five years old the third day of next June.

Please excuse me and give my kindest regards to all the old Pioneer Legislators of Iowa, and tell them they cannot imagine how often I reflect back upon those times, and it gives me melancholy pleasure. A happy time to all, and believe me as ever,

Your friend,

G. S. BAILEY.

HON. S. B. ROSENKRANS.

Hon. B. F. Gue and Committee:

WEBSTER CITY, February 9, 1894.

GENTS—Your kind invitation to the Legislative Reunion received. It would afford me great pleasure to attend, and renew old acquaintances and

associations and form new ones. But at present I don't see how I can attend. Thanking you for the invitation and hoping that all who attend may have a royal good time, I am,

Truly yours,

S. B. ROSENKRANS.

HON. NORMAN BOARDMAN.

LYONS, IOWA, February 10, 1894

Hon. B. F. Gue:

DEAR SIR—I am in receipt of your invitation to attend the Fourth Reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers Association of Iowa.

In answer, beg leave to say that it would afford me much pleasure to meet with my old friends on the occasion, especially those of the Ninth and Tenth General Assemblies, as I see some of them are specially invited to take part in the proceedings. Please remember me to them.

The weather is so changeable and my health not being very firm at my advanced age, I do not feel it prudent to attend the meeting of the Association.

I am very truly yours,

NORMAN BOARDMAN.

HON. JOHN G. FOOTE.

BURLINGTON, February 3, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Chairman of Committee, Des Moines, Iowa:

DEAR SIR—Your kind invitation to attend fourth reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association of Iowa, is at hand. Its reception brings to my mind the faces and pleasant associations of my Senatorial membership, and incites a desire to meet and enjoy with them the interesting programme prepared for the occasion. Of this I must forego the pleasure, as the requirements of old age are best subserved in the conveniences and comforts of the home. May the future reunions of the Iowa Law-Makers' Association be enabled to continue to dwell with satisfaction and pleasure upon the high character and wisdom of its legislation.

Yours truly,

JOHN G. FOOTE.

HON. N. H. BRAINERD.

IOWA CITY, February 8, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue:

DEAR SIR—I am much obliged for the invitation I have received to attend the fourth reunion of the "Pioneer Law-Makers' Association of Iowa," the 14th and 15th of this month. That will be a meeting of choice and congenial spirits, with whom I would gladly associate but for the infirmities of age, which forbid to me winter excursions from home. I shall take much pleasure in the reading of your proceedings.

Most truly yours,

N. H. BRAINERD.

HON. J. L. DANA.

NEVADA, STORY CO., IOWA, February 8, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Des Moines, Iowa:

DEAR FRIEND—I received your invitation to be present at the fourth reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association, and I assure you it would give me great pleasure to be with you on that occasion and to greet and take by the hand the men who have helped make Iowa's history, and have done so much to make Iowa the grand State it is, but I am sorry to say my business at court here will deprive me of that pleasure. I am very respectfully yours,

J. L. DANA.

HON. H. L. HUFF.

ELDORA, IOWA, February 6, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Chairman of Committee on Invitation, etc., Des Moines, Iowa:

MY DEAR SIR—I am in receipt of your invitation to attend the fourth reunion of the Pioneer Law Makers' Association of Iowa, to convene at Des Moines on the 14th and 15th inst. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to do so. But I have business engagements on both of those days that make it out of the question for me to be with you on that occasion. There certainly cannot be a more interesting body of men convene at Des Moines this season than the pioneer legislators of Iowa, and to meet with them would be a pleasure to any old legislator of Iowa, and I certainly regret that I cannot be with you. I am very truly yours,

H. L. HUFF.

HON. W. G. THOMPSON.

MARION, IOWA, February 17, 1894.

Hon. B. F. Gue, Des Moines, Iowa:

DEAR SIR—I regret that on account of our long term of court I was unable to meet with the old law-makers. I did not acknowledge your kind invitation sooner as I hoped to be able to get away from court. Hoping that all may be spared to meet again, and that I may be with them.

I am, as ever, your friend,

W. G. THOMPSON.

HON. J. W. JENKINS.

KANSAS CITY, MO., February 13, 1894.

Hon. Ed Wright:

DEAR SIR—Your circular and invitation to attend the fourth reunion of the Pioneer Law-Makers' Association are received. I regret exceedingly that I shall not be able to attend your reunion. I have thought each year since the organization of the Association that circumstances would be more favorable "next year," and that I would not fail to attend the meeting, but the more favorable "next year" has not yet come. Thauking you for your kind invitation, I remain yours truly,

J. W. JENKINS.

[From Ex-Governor Briggs' son and wife.]

JOHN S. BRIGGS AND MARY E. BRIGGS.

KIRKSVILLE, Mo., February 16, 1894.

Hon. Geo. G. Wright, President Pioneer Law-Makers of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa:

DEAR SIR—Accept our congratulations and greetings, that so many of the patriarchs of Iowa are again permitted to assemble, to join their hands and unite their voices as one, in that grand old chorus, "Auld Lang Syne." Permit the wish that Heaven's choicest blessings may be yours—

And as the sun goes down in a golden glow,
May the heavenly city lie just below.

We have the honor to be, very sincerely yours,

JOHN S. BRIGGS.

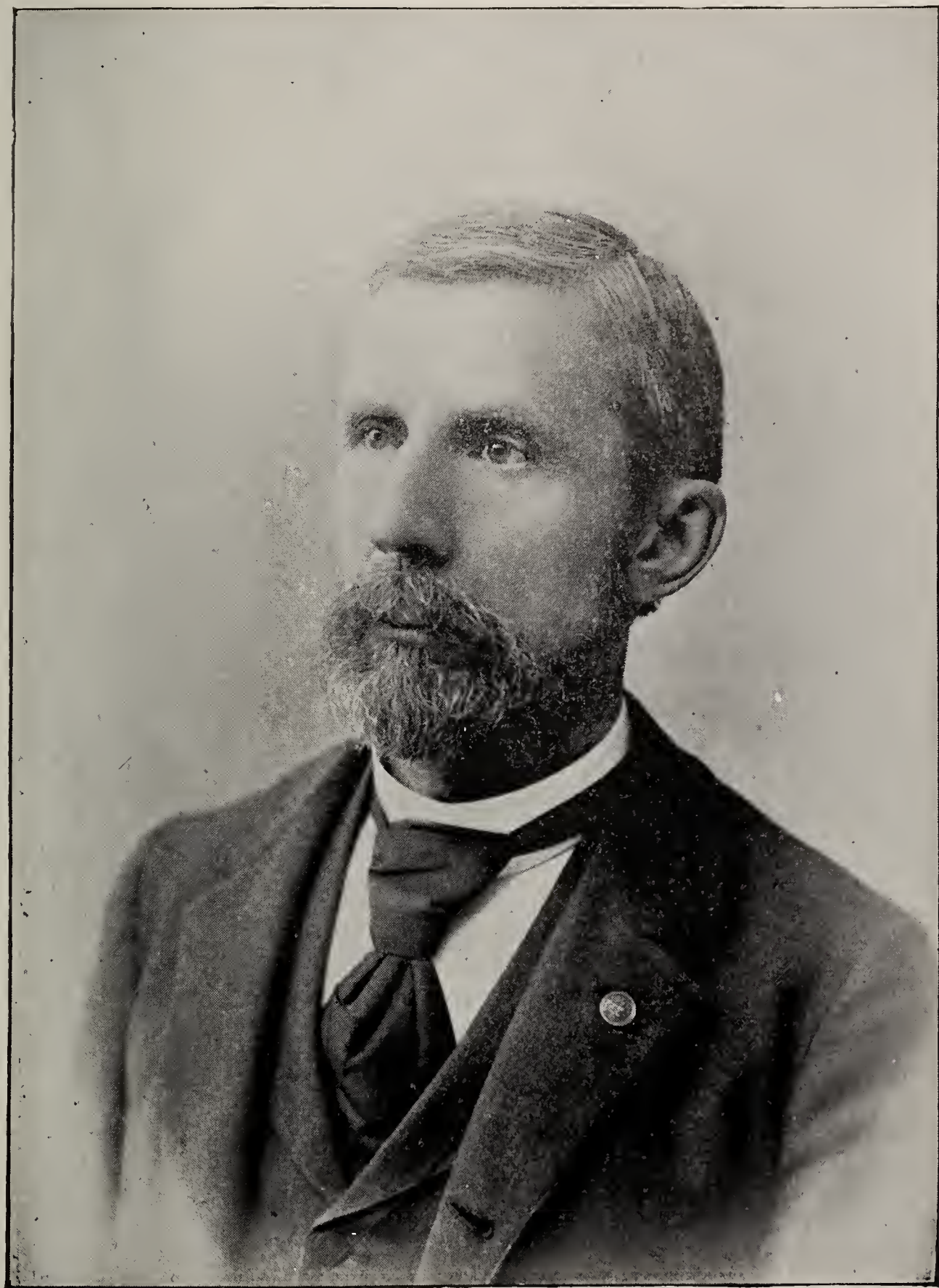
MARY E. BRIGGS.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

COL. ALONZO ABERNETHY.

ALONZO ABERNETHY was born April 14, 1836, in Sandusky county, Ohio, but lived chiefly at Bellevue in that State, until March, 1854, when he removed with his father's family to Illyria in Fayette county, Iowa. He received his education in the public schools of Bellevue, Ohio, Burlington Academy, Burlington, Iowa, and the University of Chicago, leaving the senior class in that Institution in August, 1861, to enter the service, and returning at the close of the war to graduate in 1866. Enlisting in the Ninth Iowa Infantry, company F, at the organization, he served three years and eleven months with his regiment, going out as private and returning as Lieut.-Col. in command. He was in every battle fought by his regiment, nearly forty in number, including Pea Ridge and Arkansas Post, Ark., Vicksburg, Jackson and Brandon, Miss., Cherokee Station, Barton, Crane Creek and Tusculumbia, Ala., Ringgold, Resaca, Dallas, Big Shanty, Kenesaw Mt., Atlanta, Jonesboro and Savannah, Ga., Columbia, S. C. and Bentonville, N. C. He was twice wounded, once severely at Pea Ridge, March 7, 1862, receiving a gun-shot wound in right ankle, which confined him in the hospital for four months. The Ninth Iowa is said to have lost more men killed and mortally wounded than any other Iowa Regiment, including seventy-four at the battle of Pea Ridge.

Having spent his early life on a farm Col. A. chose to follow the life of a farmer, and on his return from the service at once went to work to improve a small farm bought with the savings of his pay as a soldier, beginning at \$11 a month. He has always kept up his interest in farm life with the hope of making it his chief and permanent interest; has always owned an Iowa farm, and still has a 250 acre farm under fine cultivation near Osage, though much of the time since leaving the service he has been called to give his time chiefly to other duties. On returning from the war in 1865, Col. A. was elected to represent his county in the lower house of the Eleventh General Assembly, which convened in Des Moines, January 8, and adjourned April 3, 1866. In 1870, having removed to Denison in, Crawford county, he was elected Principal of the Des Moines Baptist College in which position he served for one year, and has been a member of its board of trustees continuously since. In the Republican State Convention of 1871, Mr. Abernethy was nominated for Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State, and was elected by a majority of 42,256 over his competitor. He was elected for a second term in 1873, and for a third term in 1875, at a time when there was a strong sentiment in the State and in the Republican party against electing state officers to a third term. During his time of service, the law providing for Teachers' Normal Institutes was enacted, which law has done more for Iowa schools and teachers than any other enactment in the history of the State. The State Normal School was also established during this term.



Samuel Bernethy.



In September, 1876, in response to a second invitation from the board of trustees of the University of Chicago, he resigned his position of Superintendent of Public Instruction to accept the temporary presidency of that institution. After two years' service in this position, during which he made a summer's vacation trip to Europe, he returned to his Denison, Iowa, farm. But in July, 1881, Prof. Abernethy was again called to public service as principal of Cedar Valley Seminary, an institution of learning established by the Baptists of northeastern Iowa, at Osage, in 1862. He still fills this position, the Seminary enrolling annually from two hundred to two hundred and fifty students, its property and endowments having increased in the thirteen years from ten to seventy thousand dollars. In January, 1868, Col. Abernethy was married to Miss Louise E. Eaton, daughter of Dr. Sewell R. Eaton, who has ever since made for him a typical Christian home. They have had five children, two of whom only are living, Herbert and Clara; the two youngest. Mr. Abernethy is a man of active temperament, though of studious habits; is over six feet tall, and has never been seriously ill in his life.

HON. L. L. AINSWORTH.

BY A. N. HOBSON.

LUCIAN LESTER AINSWORTH, the eldest child of Parmenas and Keziah Webber Ainsworth, was born in New Woodstock, Madison county, New York, June 21, 1831. His ancestors were of English descent, having settled in America in the early Colonial days. His grandfather moved to New York, where the father of Mr. Ainsworth was born, and where he still resides at an advanced age. Mr. Ainsworth's great grandfather served in the Revolutionary war and died as a prisoner on an English ship, a martyr to the Colonial cause.

Young Ainsworth received his early education in the public schools of his native State and subsequently attended Oneida Conference Seminary at Cazenovia, New York. At intervals during his course at the seminary he taught school and was said to be a very popular teacher and educator. After finishing his course at the seminary he commenced the study of the law in the office of Miner & Sloan, then the leading attorneys at De Ruyter, New York, and was afterwards admitted to the bar in Madison county in 1854. Shortly after his admission to the bar he removed to Belvidere, Illinois, where for one year he practiced law with J. R. Beckwith, under the firm name of Beckwith & Ainsworth.

Thinking the newer west offered greater advantages to young men than those afforded in Illinois, he came to Fayette county, Iowa, in August, 1855, locating at West Union, and shortly thereafter commenced the practice of law. The country was then new and sparsely settled, the law unsettled and practice crude. Lawyers then traveled the circuit, following the court from place to place—a practice long followed but now obsolete as the growth of the counties in population and wealth has produced in each county its local bar—now equal to all usual requirements of the profession.

Many of the earlier lawyers of the State became eminent locally through the practice here referred to, and none certainly in a greater degree than the subject of our sketch, who has an extensive acquaintance throughout northeastern Iowa, and the State as well.

Mr. Ainsworth at once acquired a large and profitable business and from his first appearance in Iowa was recognized as a lawyer of unusual strength, a position which he has ever since retained. He has been engaged in general practice and his name is connected with many important cases in which legal principles of great importance have been settled. Well grounded in the fundamental principles of the law, a close student of the law, learned in the technical rules and practice, precise in his application of legal principles, a natural advocate, quick to perceive the point in issue and adapt himself to the situation—he is, and always has been, a lawyer of unusual strength and cleverness as a practitioner, and has by years of practice justified the estimate of his friends that he is one of the most successful advocates his portion of the State has yet produced.

A prudent and careful counselor, conscientious in the discharge of his duties as an attorney, advising against litigation when it can be avoided, Mr. Ainsworth possesses in a peculiar degree the confidence of the people among whom he has lived and practiced. Possessed of unusual talent as a jury lawyer, a thorough tactician, full of resources, with an unusual knowledge of apt Scriptural quotations, and appropriate illustrations culled from his extensive experience and reading, with an active vein of wit and humor, he proves himself always a formidable opponent.

Mr. Ainsworth early evinced an interest in politics and in the fall of 1856 was a candidate for county attorney, but the county was overwhelmingly Republican, he a stranger, and was defeated as a matter of course. His defeat was expected from the start, but his candidacy gave him an opportunity to become acquainted with the people of his county and educated him in campaign work, which at a later date did him good service.

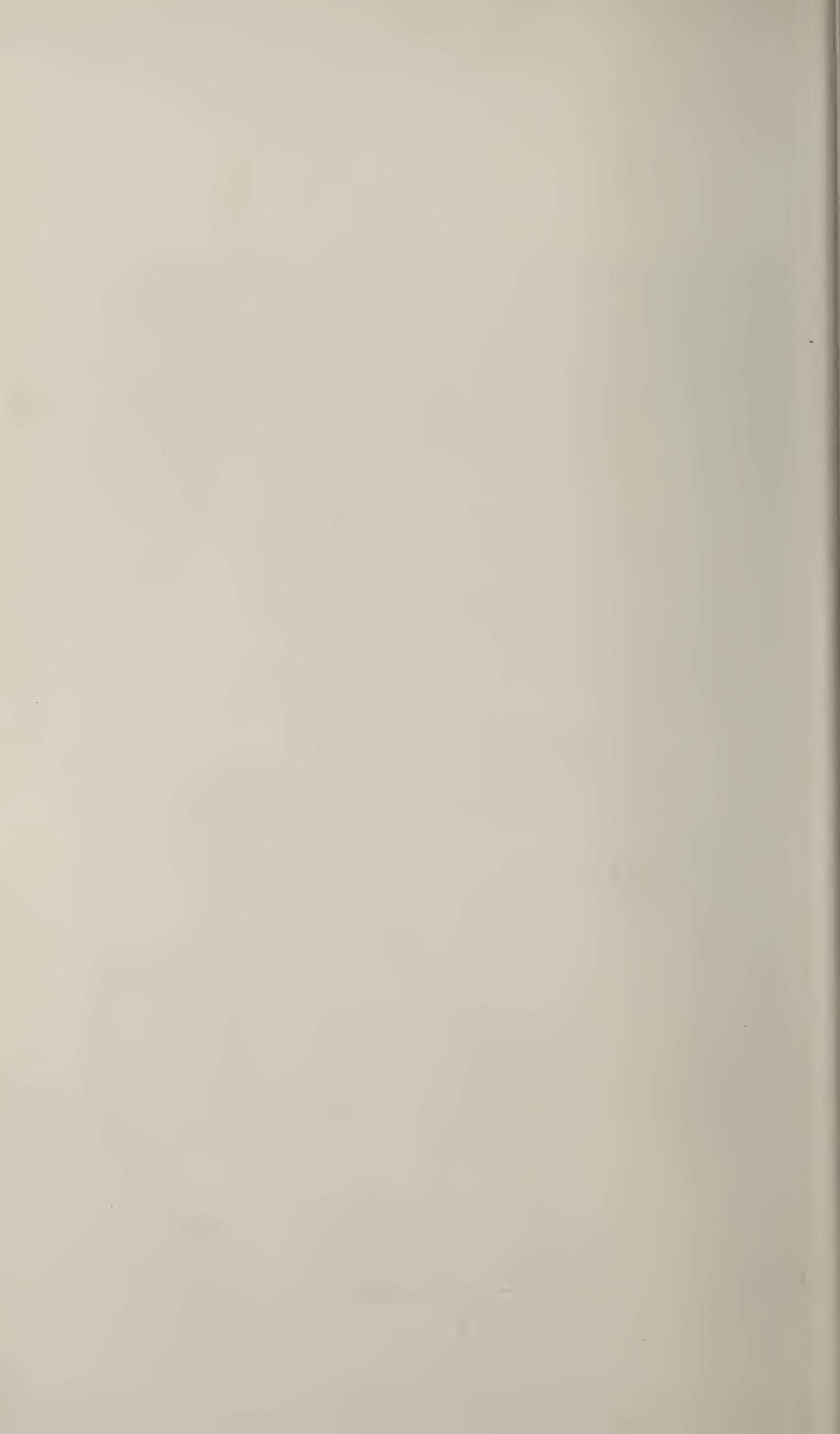
In the fall of 1859 he was nominated for State Senator in the district then comprising Fayette and Bremer counties, and was elected over Hon. Aaron Brown who had then served one term in the Senate and who was afterwards prominent as Colonel of the Third Iowa Infantry in the war of the Rebellion, and subsequently as a member of the House of Representatives in the Iowa legislature, and as Register of the Land Office.

Mr. Ainsworth served during two regular sessions and also during two special sessions of that body. During this early legislative experience he served as a member of the Committee on Judiciary and Railways, and was a very efficient member of each, but particularly the former, which then had charge of the revision of the laws of Iowa—and the fruits of which labor was the revision of 1860.

In the meantime the strife of civil war had spread over the land and Hon. Samuel J. Kirkwood, the war governor, gave him a commission as captain in the Third Iowa Infantry, which was then forming in Iowa. But as a special session of the legislature had then been called he felt that he could be of greater use to his constituents by serving out his term in the Senate than by entering the army, so declined the appointment, but gave the commission to his former law partner, Hon. C. A. Newcomb, now of St. Louis, who accepted the position and went to the war as captain of



Your Friend
L. L. Hinsworth



Company F. Afterwards, in the fall of 1862, Mr. Ainsworth recruited a company for the Sixth Iowa Cavalry then forming, and on January 31, 1863, he was commissioned as captain of Company C, Sixth Iowa Cavalry, under command of the late Col. D. S. Wilson. The regiment was ordered to the west to engage in the campaign against the Indians, and was for some months stationed at Fort Randall, Dakota.

August 21, 1863, the command left the Big Cheyenne and on September 3d encountered the enemy at White Stone Hill, at or near the present site of Frederick, South Dakota. A sharp engagement followed. Captain Ainsworth was in command of Company C, and this company, with three others, were detailed as a scouting party. The troops, some two hundred and sixty in number, advanced and discovered a large body of Indians at White Stone Hill. The Indians were engaged in parley until the main body of troops were notified and had an opportunity to advance. Upon the arrival of the balance of the command the Indians fired upon the troops, and then retreated. The fire of the enemy was returned with effect. Under cover of the night the Indians retreated and the prairie was strewn with provision, packs, tents and ponies, and the Indians speedily placed themselves beyond the reach of the soldiers.

The Sixth Iowa Cavalry in this encounter was detailed to surround the Indians and drive them in and the regiment received a flattering report of its action in the campaign. The regiment took part in several other engagements, among others that of Tah Ka Kohuta, on July 28, 1864, and was finally mustered out of the service at Sioux City, Iowa, October 17, 1865. Service on the frontier was largely confined to garrison duty, and only occasionally were the troops permitted to engage in conflict. The soldiers were just as brave and patriotic as those engaged in southern service, but opportunity was lacking to most of them to distinguish themselves on the field of battle; but their service, while lacking these opportunities, was just as essential to the welfare of the nation, and was full of hardship and privation and fraught with dangers as great as other branches of the service.

After leaving the army Mr. Ainsworth returned to West Union and re-engaged in the practice of law with Captain C. H. Millar, which engagement continued until July, 1873.

In the fall of 1871 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the Fourteenth General Assembly as a member of the House of Representatives, and served during the sessions of 1872 and 1873, and was, during his term of service, a member of the judiciary committee, rendering valuable service in the formation of the Code of 1873.

In 1874 Mr. Ainsworth was elected to the Forty-fourth Congress to represent the Fourth District of Iowa, and served as a member of the committee on post-offices, post-roads and private land claims.

At the succeeding election he declined a re-nomination, and enjoyed the distinction of being the first Democrat to represent Iowa in the Congress of the United States in a period of twenty years.

Since his retirement from Congress he has devoted his entire time to his profession, and has held no office except that of school director, a position to which he was elected for several successive terms. Mr. Ainsworth has taken an active interest in all matters relating to education, and for a number of years was a member of the school board of West Union, and gave this

position the same thoughtful care he did the greater offices held by him, and his work received the commendation of his neighbors by repeated elections to the position.

In addition to his work in behalf of the public schools he has also taken an interest in higher education, and has served for several terms as one of the trustees of the Upper Iowa University at Fayette, Iowa.

Mr. Ainsworth has been considerable of a student; has kept abreast of the times in general reading, and has one of the largest and best selected private libraries in the county. In addition to his legal studies he has as a branch thereof made a special study of the subject of insanity, and has with the exception of two terms, occupied the position of a member of the commission of insanity in the county ever since its organization, and is an incumbent of the position at this time.

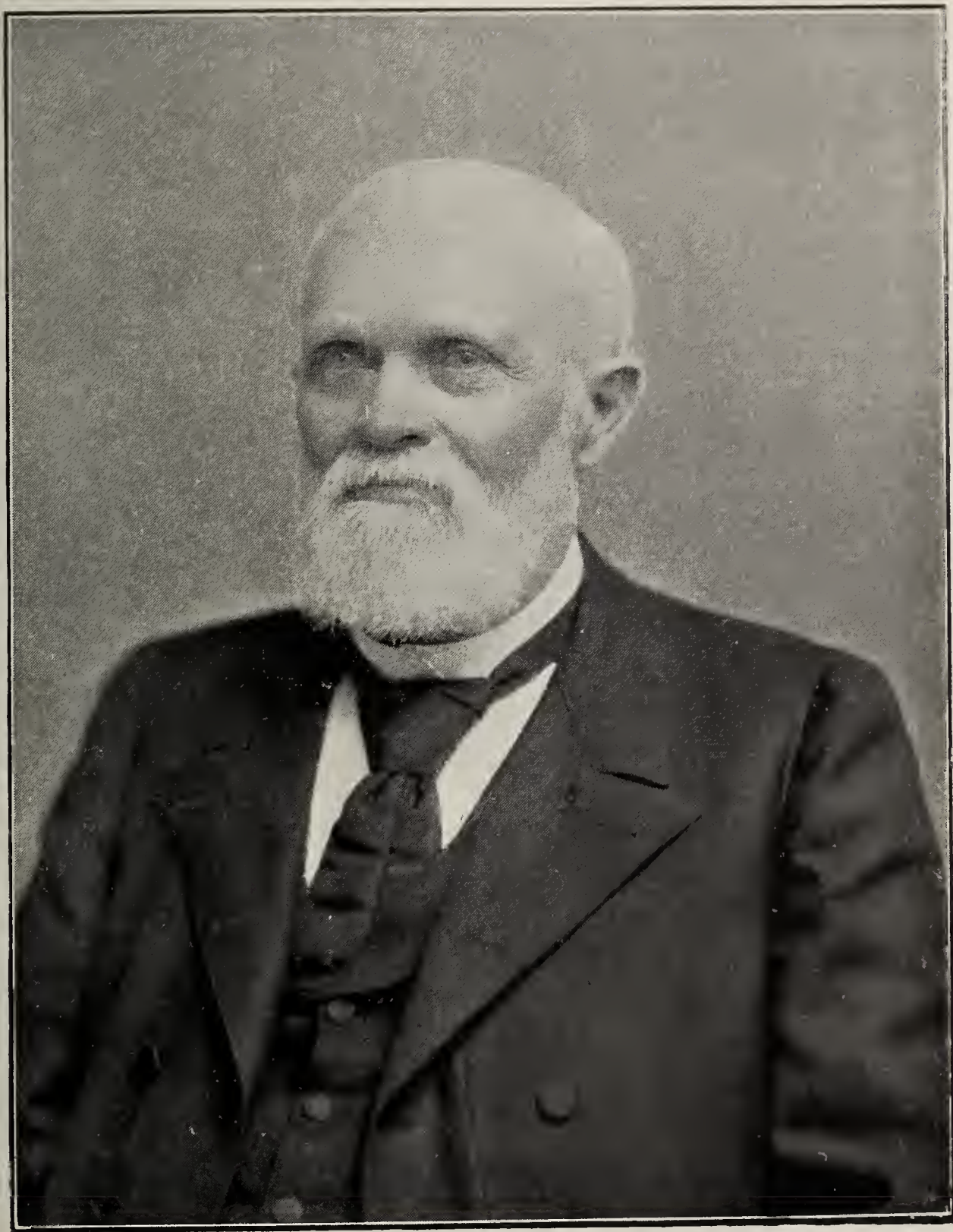
Mr. Ainsworth was married December 8, 1859, to Margaret McCove who was born in Louisburg, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1833, and is a daughter of Joseph and Eleanor (Nerius) McCove. She came with her parents to Freeport, Illinois, in 1839 and subsequently came to West Union on a visit to her sister, and it was on this occasion she met Mr. Ainsworth. She is a woman of unusual force of character and energy and modest and retiring withal. Of superior natural ability, extensive reading, liberally educated, herself always a student, she is a fitting helpmeet to the subject of our sketch. Six children, five sons and one daughter, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth, five of whom still survive, all settled in life except the youngest son, now a student in the medical department of the State University of Iowa.

Mr. Ainsworth is a member of the Masonic orders, and a charter member of the West Union Lodge No. 69, and Langridge Commandery No. 47, Knights Templar. Prominent in social circles, always welcome at the social gatherings of his neighbors and friends, always active in all questions incident to the development of a new country, he is now and always has been a prominent character in the life of the county. Now in the prime of life with many years of usefulness apparently ahead of him, he is a leader in a community unusually rich in the number of its men of character and reputation.

HON. GEORGE W. BEMIS.

BY STEPHEN TABOR.

The subject of this brief biography might truthfully quote, as equally applicable to himself, the opening sentence of the Memoirs of General Grant: "My family is American and has been for generations, in all its branches, direct and collateral," and to the believer in the potency of hereditary influences in the formation of character, he affords an example of the cumulative results of such an ancestry. Thoroughly imbued with the spirit of our institutions, cherishing an unwavering faith in the ultimate universal establishment of the fullest human liberty, and recognizing no social dis-



Geo W Bennis



inction based upon any foundation other than personal merit, he presents a striking type of the ideal American.

The son of Eleazor Bemis, he is a descendant, in the paternal line, of Joseph Bemis, an English yeoman who emigrated to this country, settling in Watertown, near Boston, in 1640, and through his mother, Susan Hartwell, of William Hartwell, who located in Concord, Mass., in 1636. Patriotism, industry and integrity seem to have been the salient qualities which marked his progenitors, and instances of exceptional longevity point to exemplary habits and well-conducted lives. In this connection, the following quaint obituary notice, published in *The Massachusetts Spy*, of December 26, 1810, is worthy of reproduction in full:

"DIED, IN SPENCER, CAPT. EDMUND BEMIS, AGED 90.

"There are some things worthy of record in the life of this aged and war-worn veteran. His father was one of the first settlers of Spencer, having removed from Sudbury about the time of the birth of this son, or about the year 1720. This son, Edmund, has been very remarkable for his habits of honesty, industry, and temperance which produced a long life, health and happiness.

"He early entered the service of his country, and was a lieutenant at the reduction of Louisburg in the year 1745. At this siege he was a zealous and active officer. After the French had surrendered to the victorious armies of New England it was found that they had spiked their cannon, intending thereby to render them entirely useless to their captors. It had been heretofore deemed an impracticable thing, after a gun was thus spiked, to drill it out, or by any other method whatever, to render it again fit for service. The commander of the American forces offered a premium to any one who would undertake the task, if he should prove successful. Lieut. Bemis undertook it, and by a process heretofore unthought of effected the desired object. Instead of drilling, as was supposed to be the only practicable method, he collected a large quantity of wood around the cannon and setting it on fire heated it to such a degree that with a cold punch the spike was easily driven into the barrel. Thus was he the author of a successful discovery to his country, which has ever since been followed with complete success.

"After the reduction of Louisburg he was captain in the war with France, which succeeded, at the close of which he returned to seek repose among his friends, which he has since enjoyed without interruption."

George Washington Bemis was born October 13, 1826, at Spencer, Mass., where he remained until 1837, when his father removed to Alabama, Gene-see county, New York. This change of residence was an event of no small moment, and involved a journey of many days fraught with more adventures and possible dangers than are now incident to an ocean passage or trans-continental tour. The section of New York into which he was thus brought was then a part of the ever-advancing frontier, and he gave a sturdy lad's assistance in the arduous labor of subduing the rugged face of nature to the needs of civilization. This task performed, his summers were spent in working on the farm which he had helped to wrest from the surrounding wilderness, and his winters were devoted to making the best use of such advantages as were offered by the primitive country school. The list would be a long one which included the names of all the men of prominence who owe much of their success to the efforts of the Yankee pedagogue of that period, whom Halleck describes as

* * * * * "teaching
The A B C from Webster's spelling book,
Gallant and godly, making love and preaching,
And gaining by what they call 'hook and crook,'
And what the moralists call over-reaching,
A decent living."

A course at the Cary Collegiate Seminary at Oakfield supplemented this instruction, and that he profited by every educational opportunity is shown by his early election to the office of superintendent of the township schools. His interest in political matters dates from the presidential campaign of 1840, and in 1848 he disgusted his father—an ardent Whig—by casting one of the eleven anti-slavery ballots “which leavened the lump” of four hundred polled in that district for the opposing candidate. He remained an enthusiastic and uncompromising Abolitionist throughout the struggle which terminated in emancipation. He has always, too, been a zealous advocate of woman suffrage. He taught school for two years in Wisconsin and in April, 1854, came west to visit an acquaintance. So enamoured did he become of the broad and fertile prairies of Iowa during his stay that he determined to adopt Independence as a place of residence, and went into the land business. Shortly afterward he became engaged to Miss Narcissa T. Roszell and, in the February of 1855, he went to New York, whither the young lady had preceded him, and brought her back his wife. This proved an exceptionally happy marriage—a union of congenial tastes and hearty co-operation of progressive aims. It was blessed by three children: May, who did not long survive early womanhood, and William S. and Arthur R., young men who have now established homes of their own.

Mr. Bemis was elected a member of the Eighth General Assembly in 1859, and served in the lower house during the regular session of 1860. It may be of some interest to mention, as an illustration of the changes wrought in a few decades, that four days and three nights were consumed in going from Independence to Des Moines, and that the capital had neither a railroad nor a telegraph line at that time. The session lasted nearly three months, and the legislators had to deal with business of great importance, including a revision of the Code, and an attempt to mitigate the “hard times” then existing by remodeling the revenue laws. Mr. Bemis introduced an important bill in relation to the duties of county surveyor and was largely instrumental in substituting the present supervisor system for the then existing county judge rule. The extra or “war session” which followed in June, 1861, was one that demanded action in affairs of much moment, and in all the deliberations he took a prominent part, his sagacious influence being very apparent. As one of a special committee of five, he was sent to investigate the construction of the insane asylum at Mt. Pleasant, out of which some ugly scandals had arisen, and he performed other and important duties.

Upon the expiration of his term, he was made a postal clerk on the Illinois Central Railroad between Dubuque and Sioux City, a position which he held for seven years. In the fall of 1869 he was appointed by Governor Merrill, one of the Commissioners of the Hospital for the Insane at Independence, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Albert Clarke, and he acted as Secretary and Treasurer of the Board until his resignation in December, 1871. He was reappointed by Governor Carpenter in April, 1872, and served in the same capacity until July, 1892, during which time he received and disbursed more than a million dollars. He was elected from Buchanan county to the State Senate in 1871, and was justly regarded as one of the most efficient members of that body, giving to its records little in the way of oratory, but much service in a conscientious application of practical

business judgment to the questions which presented themselves for consideration. He served as chairman of the committee on the State University and was one of the committee on appropriations. He also secured for the hospital at Independence, without a dissenting voice in the Senate, an appropriation of \$200,000, the largest ever granted. He was chosen Treasurer of State in 1876 and re-elected in 1878, conducting the affairs of that extremely responsible office in such a manner as to win expressions of general approval.

He was a member of the first board of supervisors of Buchanan county and, apropos of his candidacy for that office, he once told an amusing and characteristic anecdote. On the day of the election he returned from an eastern trip to learn, with surprise, of his nomination. The struggle was an intensely hot one, party feeling ran high and the result of the battle was in great doubt. He started for the polls with the modest intention, as in previous instances, of voting for his opponent, but it occurred to him on the way that he was no more justified in "scratching" than any other voter, and he deposited a straight ticket in the box. "I received a majority of exactly one," he concluded, "and so became the choice of the people."

Mr. Bemis is of rather more than medium stature and somewhat full habit. His physiognomy and the general contour of his head recall portraits of Charles Darwin, and in many respects he is not unlike that eminent iconoclast. A long public career has left him with an unblemished reputation. He has held great pecuniary trusts with an integrity that has never known the shadow of suspicion, and in every situation he has been the champion of temperance and sound morality. It is fitting that, with good health, a keen relish for all intellectual and wholesome recreation, surrounded in his pleasant home by the friends and neighbors of half a century, he should be able to say with Adam, in "As You Like It"—

"Therefore my age is as a lusty winter,"
Frosty, but kindly."

HON. NORMAN BOARDMAN.

This distinguished citizen and Pioneer Law-Maker, died at his home in the city of Lyons, Iowa, on the 30th day of April 1894, at the ripe age of eighty-one years. He was the author of the proposition to organize the Pioneer Law-Makers Association of Iowa, and was a leading member of the first reunion, which, on February 24 and 25, 1886, was held in Des Moines. In 1890 this Association became permanently established.

The following is a sketch of his active and useful life:

Norman Boardman was born at Morristown, Vermont, April, 30, 1813. His ancestors, as far back as the year 1639, came over from England and located on the then outskirts of civilization, and bought of the Indians, a large tract of land near where Wethersfield, Connecticut, now stands. His father, Ozias Boardman, true to the Pioneer instinct of the family, emigrated to what is now Morristown, Vermont, in the year 1793, at which place he built a home, developed a farm and surrounded himself with a happy family, the subject of the sketch being one of the twelve children. Mr. Board-

man, in his boyhood, worked on the farm during the summer and attended the common school in the winter. As soon as he was able he taught school in the winter and earned money to pay his way through the Johnson's Academy, from which institution he graduated when twenty years of age. He remained on the farm until he was twenty-five years old, when, with the desire to do for himself, and to see more of the world, he started for the great undeveloped west. This was May 9, 1837. He visited Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago, Joliet, and Quincy, and journeyed down the Mississippi as far as Louisiana, Missouri. He taught one term of school in Missouri, and returned via the Mississippi and Ohio rivers and Miami Canal to Cleveland, and thence home.

He commenced the study of law at once and was admitted to the bar September, 1839. He practiced his profession with marked success until 1852, when he again visited the west, going to St. Paul, Minnesota, stopping at Dubuque, and Peoria, Illinois, on his return. Next year, 1853, he went west again, leaving his family at Potsdam, New York, until he could find for them a permanent home. This he finally did, locating at Lyons, Iowa, to which place he moved his family, September 25, 1855. His principal business from this time until his death was real estate, in which he was very successful. His confidence in the value of Iowa's rich soil became early established, and he was always satisfied to confine his real estate operations to his own State. In the spring of 1854, in company with Dr. Downs, William H. Gibbs and Mr. Hess, he went to Mitchell county, Iowa, purchased eighty acres of land, which they platted and named Osage, in honor of Orin Sage, of Ware, Massachusetts, a partner of Mr. Gibbs.

Mr. Boardman always had the esteem and support of the community in which he lived. When he attained his majority he was a democrat in politics. In the early days of his law practice he was tendered the nomination of his party for the General Assembly of Vermont, which he declined. In 1845, during President Polk's administration, he was appointed Deputy Collector of Customs. In 1849 he was nominated and elected State Attorney, while his party was largely in the minority. He left the Democratic party in 1854, after the passage of the Kansas and Nebraska bill, and became a strong, determined member of the Republican party, and continued influential in its counsels to the end. He assisted in holding the first Republican meeting ever held in Lyons, Iowa, and for a number of years was a member of the town Council.

He was a member of the first and second Board of Supervisors of Clinton county, Iowa. In 1861 he was elected by a majority of 1,100, out of a vote of 3,000, to represent his county in the State Senate. He took rank with the strong men of the Senate, and was chairman of the Committee on Schools and School Lands and a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

The period during which Mr. Boardman was a member of the Senate was of great importance to both the State and National government. The years just preceding were gloomy ones for Iowa; the panic of 1857 caused real estate to depreciate in value, taxes were delinquent and remained unpaid. The school fund consisted mostly of notes held against individuals who had bought lands at the high figures of 1855 and 1856, and under the great financial stress could not meet their obligations. The State government was in urgent need of funds to pay its expenses and the demands made upon it by the general government, which was engaged in the terrible conflict of the great civil war. Many of his colleagues urged that the school fund should be collected and used in carrying on the government. Mr. Boardman, chairman of the Committee on Schools and School Lands, opposed this movement with all the energy, argument and personal influence he could command. He argued that a large part of the school fund would be sacrificed, and a large number of our best citizens ruined. The movement was defeated, laws were passed by which all taxes could be collected, and time given to all worthy citizens who were indebted to the school fund, to save themselves. The school fund at that time amounted to about three million dollars (\$3,000,000). It has been kept safely invested since, and now amounts to about \$4,600,000, and no man deserves more credit for this grand result, than does the subject of this sketch. All during his term as Senator, Mr. Boardman proved to be a firm friend of our common schools, the Agricultural College and the State University. It was at this time that the State received the grant, establishing and endowing the Iowa Agricultural College, and enacted laws for the leasing and sale of these lands. The laws were so wise and far-reaching that Iowa now has the largest endowed Agricultural College, save one (Cornell University of New York), in the United States.

In 1869 Mr. Boardman was appointed by President Grant to the office of Internal Revenue Collector for the second district of Iowa. He resigned this office of his own



Norman Boardman

accord in 1876. During his service he collected millions for the government, and not a dollar was misappropriated. Mr. Boardman was the first collector that discovered the secret and fraudulent methods of the distillers, and from his reports to the department at Washington began the exposure of the gigantic whiskey frauds of 1874. After resigning the collectorship, he gave the rest of his years to his personal affairs. He held his interest in the welfare of his State and Nation until the day of his death, and did not cease his activity in their behalf until old age made it necessary.

Mr. Boardman was married to Lydia George, of Try, Vermont, in 1843. She died in about three years. In 1848 he married Lois B. Knight, of St. Lawrence county, New York. She made his home joyous and happy for nine years, and died at Lyons, Iowa. In 1858 he married his present widow, Sarah M. Knight, of Gardner, Massachusetts. The only children of Mr. Boardman that grew to manhood are Homer C., William K. and Charles D., and they are children of his second wife.

Mr. Boardman was an indulgent, kind and generous father, and gave all his children a good academical education, and the youngest a college training. They have all been prosperous and successful in life.

H. C. Boardman is State Senator from the thirty-first district, Story and Boone counties. W. K. Boardman is State Dairy Commissioner, and C. D. Boardman has just retired from a six years' term as trustee of the Iowa Agricultural College.

HON. SAMUEL McNUTT.

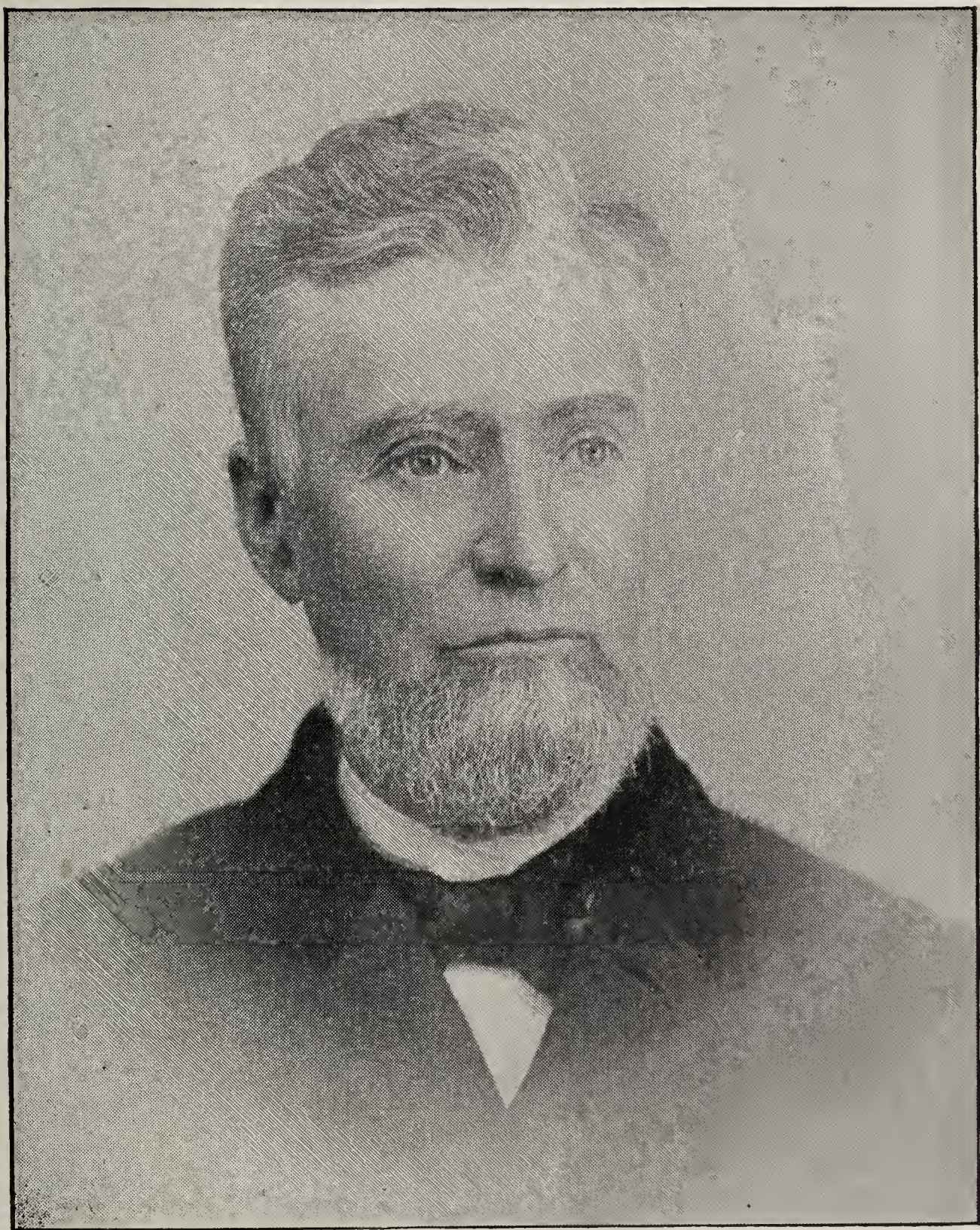
SAMUEL McNUTT was born November 21, 1825, in the north of Ireland, twenty miles west of Londonderry, and is the son of Samuel McNutt and Hannah *nee* Stuart. The family is of Scotch origin, and descended from a somewhat noted ancestry in the history of the soul-trying events of Covenantant times. While he was yet a child the family came to America, and after a brief stay in Philadelphia settled in New Castle county, Delaware, near the village of Newark. His mother was now a widow with seven children, of whom Samuel was the oldest. She never married again and for forty years devoted her life and energies to the education and interests of her children, three boys and four girls, and had the happiness to see them all honorably settled in life. Her second son, Robert, became an eminent physician in Louisiana; but taking the side of the Union at the time of the rebellion, he escaped to the North, losing all his property in Louisiana, and Governor Kirkwood appointed him assistant surgeon to the Thirty-eighth Iowa Regiment. Her third son, James, also joined the Union army, being attached to the medical department of the regular army, and for more than a year had medical charge of Fort Jackson and Fort St. Phillip, below New Orleans. At the age of eighty-five years she died in Iowa, December 24, 1874.

Our subject, Samuel, passed his boyhood working on the little farm in Delaware. By the time he was fourteen years of age he had committed to memory the Shorter Catechism, most of the Psalms of David in meter and Proverbs of Solomon, much of the "Scotch Martyrs" and Weems' Life of Washington. At this time his books were few and those here named laid the foundation for his character and have influenced his whole life. He first attracted attention by his poetical compositions published in *The Temperance Star*, of Wilmington, Delaware, over the signature of "Harmony

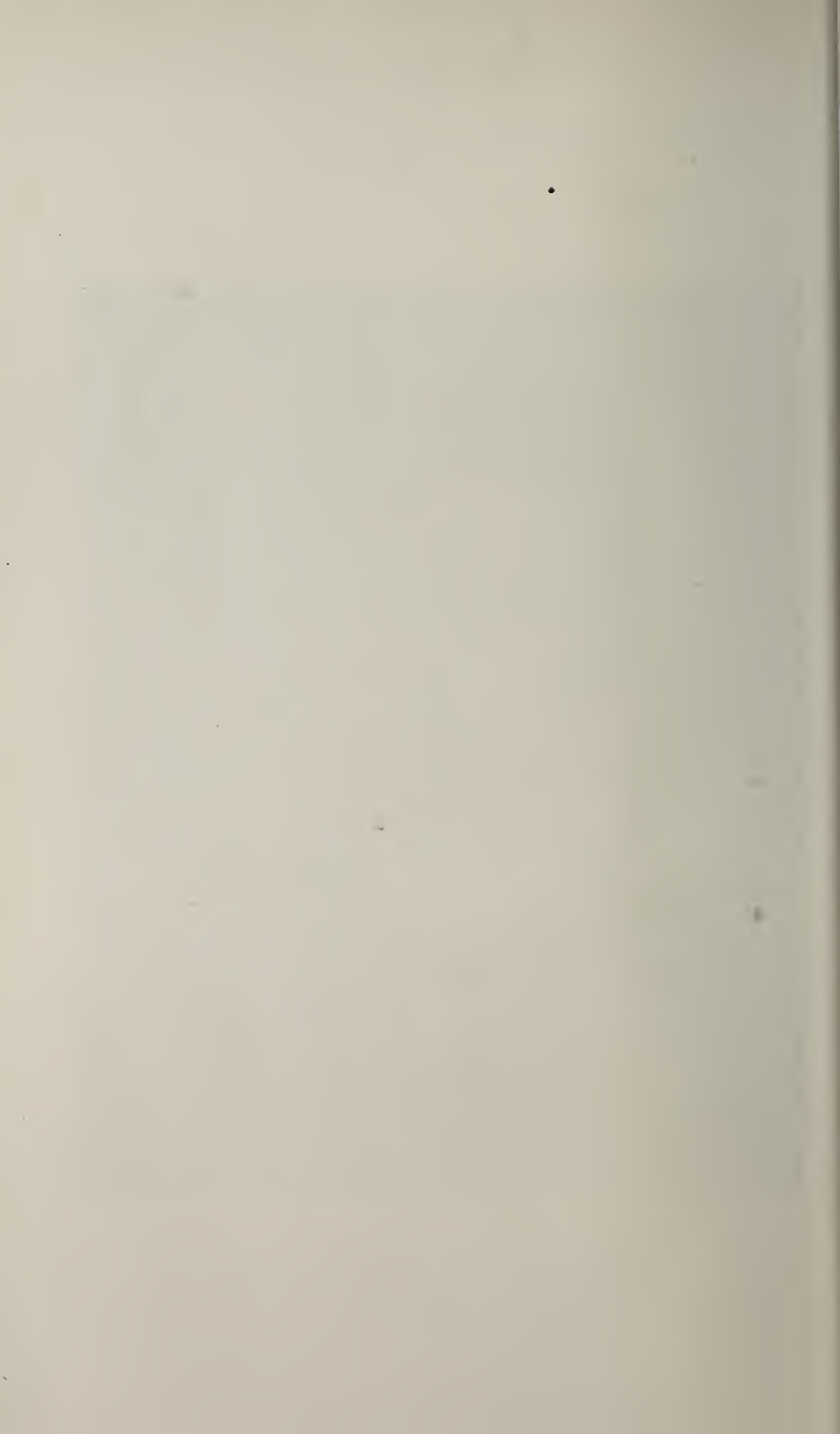
Plowboy," Harmony being the name of his school district. Delaware College is located in the neighboring village of Newark, and Dr. J. S. Bell, one of the professors, being attracted by the published articles, offered the "Plowboy" the use of his library and other literary assistance. He soon after entered Delaware College, where he obtained a liberal education. In those years he contributed to *Peterson's Magazine*, *Neal's Gazette*, *Godey's Lady's Book*, *Saturday Courier*, etc. Some of his pieces had a wide circulation in their day. Leaving college he engaged in teaching and was soon after elected president of the New Castle County Teachers' Association, which position he held three consecutive years by election. In the meantime he studied law under the direction of Hon. Daniel M. Bates, then Secretary of State of Delaware, afterwards Chancellor. In 1851 he came west to Milwaukee, was admitted to the bar and located there to practice. But being offered a professorship in a collegiate institute at Hernando, Mississippi, he went to that state, remaining there some two years. In 1854, he returned to the west and located in Muscatine county, Iowa. In 1856 he was principal of the First Ward public school, and in that year he and D. F. Wells, who was principal of the Third Ward school, originated the first educational magazine in Iowa, namely *The Voice of Iowa*, published by Dr. Enos at Cedar Rapids. At the close of 1856 he became editor of the Muscatine *Enquirer*, having purchased a half interest in that paper. On the 14th of April, 1857, he was married to Miss Anna E. Lucas, of Portsmouth, Ohio, a niece of Ex-Governor Robert Lucas, afterwards first governor of Iowa Territory. He became associate editor of the Dubuque *Herald*, then under the management of Joseph B. Dorr (afterwards Colonel of Eighth Iowa Cavalry), and remained in that capacity until 1860, when "Dorr & Co." transferred the *Herald* to "Mahony & Co."

Up to this time Mr. McNutt had been a Democrat in politics and a friend and supporter of Stephen A. Douglas. But when the Southern States began to secede and war seemed imminent, he announced himself in favor of the constitutionally elected administration of Abraham Lincoln, and in favor of every means that could be used to put down armed rebellion. The course of the *Herald* under "Mahony & Co." being opposed to the measures of the administration, Mr. McNutt was induced by a number of his Democratic friends, the "war Democrats," to start a paper, *The Daily Evening Union*, at Dubuque, to counteract the teachings of the *Herald*. During his publication of the *Union* in that time of excitement and passion he passed through some stirring scenes, and his bound volume of the *Union* he prizes highly, and has deposited it with the Historical Department of Iowa. The publication of the paper was a serious pecuniary loss to him, when he discontinued it and became one of the editors of the Dubuque *Times*. But in the fall of 1862, intending to go into the army, he removed his family back to his farm in Muscatine county where he has since resided.

In 1863, while recruiting for the Eighth Iowa Cavalry, he was nominated by the Republicans of Muscatine county for representative to the Tenth General Assembly, and he was elected by a handsome majority. His acts in the Legislature so pleased the people that he was re-nominated and re-elected to the Eleventh General Assembly and also to the Twelfth General Assembly, being thus returned three times in succession to the same house, an honor never before conferred by Muscatine. At the close of his



Samuel McKitt



third term in the House he was nominated and elected to the Senate, without any opposition, for a full term, which ended January 1, 1874. He thus served ten consecutive years as a member of either House. In both branches of the Legislature he was an advocate of needed reforms and left a record of which he and his friends are proud. In the House he was the pioneer of measures for controlling railway corporations, and the author of bills for that purpose. The principles which he advocated finally prevailed, and have since been sustained by the Supreme Court of the United States. He was the author of the act of 1864 (Session Laws, chapter 7), which wiped out the "black laws" of the Third General Assembly and made Iowa really a "free state." He managed, in 1864, the passage through the House of the "Senator Gue bill," to drive out of Iowa the "wild cat" currency then in circulation. In the Senate he was the father of many bills, and the author of some of the important sections of the Code of 1873, including the proviso in section 866, and all of sections 1305 and 1306.

He was the Senate member and chairman of the committee to visit and report upon the penitentiary at Fort Madison in 1872. He wrote their report to the Legislature, the result of which was that he prevented the State from paying out a bogus and trumped up claim of prison labor contractors for over forty-seven thousand dollars; and he recommended the building of a new penitentiary at some point where rock could be quarried. This advice was followed by the location of the new penitentiary at Anamosa.

In the summer of 1872 he was a candidate before the Republican State Convention for State Treasurer, and had a large and respectable support and vote; but the various corporations he had fought, the enraged prison-labor contractors, and the other candidates all combined, were too many for him. He was a conspicuous actor among the "Patrons of Husbandry," was master of a Grange, member of the State Grange, and president of the "Muscatine County Council" of the order. He was the author of the petition to the Legislature, signed by the Master of the State Grange, as coming from seventy thousand Iowa farmers, asking for legislation to regulate the railway charges. In 1884, Gov. Sherman appointed him to represent the Second Congressional District in the Farmers' National Congress at Nashville, Tenn. He took an active part in that body, and had it pass a resolution condemning the selling of large tracts of land to aliens, and calling upon Congress to prevent the same.

In August, 1889, while Anna, his wife, was on a visit to their son William in Nebraska, she was taken sick and died, and he has lived a lonely life in these late years. Their living children are three boys—William, a farmer at Ord, Nebraska, Robert, a practicing dentist at Muscatine, and Samuel, a practicing dentist in Des Moines.

On the 13th of August, 1890, President Harrison appointed him United States consul at Maracaibo, Venezuela. He went there to take charge of that office, and after a brief residence he concluded that he could not accommodate himself to the way of living and the people of that torrid clime, and so he returned to the United States and to beloved Iowa, and with thanks to the President resigned the consulate.

By church associations he is a Presbyterian, but he entertains very liberal views of religion and humanity. When sixteen years of age he joined the Washingtonians; in 1851, the Odd Fellows; in 1861, the Union

League; in 1872, the Patrons of Husbandry. He was for twenty years an officer of the County Agricultural Society, and one year its president. He is also a member of the "Scotch-Irish Society of America."

Now, in his advancing years, he is taking the world easy. He lives alone, among many friends and acquaintances, takes notice of passing events, and has a somewhat extensive social and literary correspondence.

REV. CHESTER S. PERCIVAL.

CHESTER SMITH PERCIVAL, clergyman, educator and poet, was born at Vernon, Oneida county, New York, March 12, 1822, the son of Arba and Clarissa (Simonds) Percival. His father was a farmer, the son of Roswell Percival, who emigrated from Vermont to Central New York early in the nineteenth century; his father, Ebenezer Percival, having removed to Vermont from Connecticut during the latter part of the eighteenth century. This Ebenezer was first cousin to James Percival, the grandfather of the distinguished poet and scientist, James G. Percival, who died and was buried at Hazel Green, Wis., in 1856, being at the time of his death geologist of Wisconsin, as he had been for a number of years before of Connecticut. The mother of Chester Smith Percival was also of Connecticut extraction, her father, Josiah Simonds, having removed from that state about the same time that Roswell Percival left Vermont. This Josiah Simonds was drafted as a soldier in the war of 1812, and though he was a wealthy landowner, and could easily have procured a substitute, was too high-spirited to do so, and entered the service, but within a few months was attacked with camp fever and brought home dead.

Chester Smith Percival, after completing his academic course, entered Hamilton College, from which in 1845 he was graduated with honor. His commencement theme, a poem, entitled "The Land of Dreams," occupied on the scheme the place usually assigned to the valedictory. As a student, he stood among the first in his class, especially in elocution, ancient and modern languages. During his college course he was a contributor to the newspapers of Rome, Utica, and neighboring villages. Subsequent to graduation he filled various positions as a teacher; first, in the academy at Fredonia, New York; then in Augusta, New York; afterward in Tennessee, for five years, being principal of the Sumner academy, at Gallatin. He then returned to New York and was for some years principal of the Vernon academy. He subsequently established a Church boarding school for boys at Fredonia, which was under the immediate patronage of the Episcopal church. During the financial crisis of 1857 the attendance at his school was so reduced that he was obliged to abandon the enterprise. Dr. Percival had meanwhile been studying for the ministry, and in 1860 he was ordained at Utica, by Bishop De Lancey. In 1861 he was called to be rector of the parish at Homer, Courtland county, New York, where he was at the outbreak of the civil war. Being appointed chaplain of the Twelfth New York Infantry, he resigned charge of his parish for a few months, and went to the front

with the regiment, returning to Homer at the expiration of the time for which he had enlisted, and continued in charge of the Episcopal church at that place until the spring of 1864, when he accepted a call to become rector of Grace church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His entire ministry of thirty-one years has been spent in Iowa, with the exception of the three years he passed at Homer, New York, and four years at Rockford, Illinois. Dr. Percival has been rector of seven parishes, and has not only attained distinction as a parish minister, but as an eloquent preacher and a reader, whose elocution gives its true meaning and reality to the beautiful liturgy of the church. However, he has become more widely known as a writer than as an educator or clergyman, and since entering the ministry he has continued to write and publish, both in prose and verse. He wielded a versatile, vigorous pen, and mooted questions on theology, morals, literature and science have been discussed by him with acknowledged ability. Dr. Percival has both written and lectured in opposition to the "Darwinian theory," and in 1878, at St. Louis, during the session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of which he was a member, he read a paper on the "Early Decay of the Male Plant of the Common Hemp, *Canabis Sativa*." This paper caused a great sensation, both from its novelty and the argument against "Darwinism" which he had introduced into it.

During his residence in Tennessee, Dr. Percival was one of the favorite poetical contributors to the paper of the celebrated George D. Prentice, the well known "*Louisville Journal*," then in its palmy days. The publication of his poems in that journal, together with Mr. Prentice's enthusiastic encomiums, resulted in his being known and acknowledged throughout the country as one of our national poets. He repaid Mr. Prentice's well-bestowed praise in the following epigram:

"Apollo, consenting to teach thee his trade,
Has met with a woeful disaster;
For the works of the gods are now left in the shade—
The 'Prentice surpasses the master."

His poems were republished in many of the leading newspapers and magazines of the country. In 1883, at the annual commencement of Hamilton College, he read, by invitation, a poem before the "Alumni Association" and received, on commencement day the honorary degree of Ph. D.

Dr. Percival made rhymes before he could read, and in his nineteenth year, while yet a freshman, published, by subscription, a volume of his juvenile poems entitled "House of Musing," to assist in defraying the expenses of his college course. His busy pen has since never been idle, and he had ready for publication at the time of his death, enough material to fill several volumes. He was naturally proud of his distinguished relative, James G. Percival, and gives him credit for much of his own best inspiration. One of his most affecting poems, which was recently published in the New York *Critic*, is entitled "At the Grave of James G. Percival," and contains a severe rebuke to Connecticut and Wisconsin for leaving the grave of his illustrious relative in utter neglect.

In the spring of 1846 Dr. Percival was married to Elizabeth Hodges, who was his faithful and accomplished assistant in his work as an educator.

In 1890 Dr. Percival was appointed chaplain of the Soldiers' Home at Marshalltown, Iowa. On the 4th of August, 1892, he was called to the

Eternal Home after an illness of six weeks. His body was taken to Beloit, Wisconsin, where it was tenderly laid to rest in the cemetery at that place on the 6th, just before sunset.

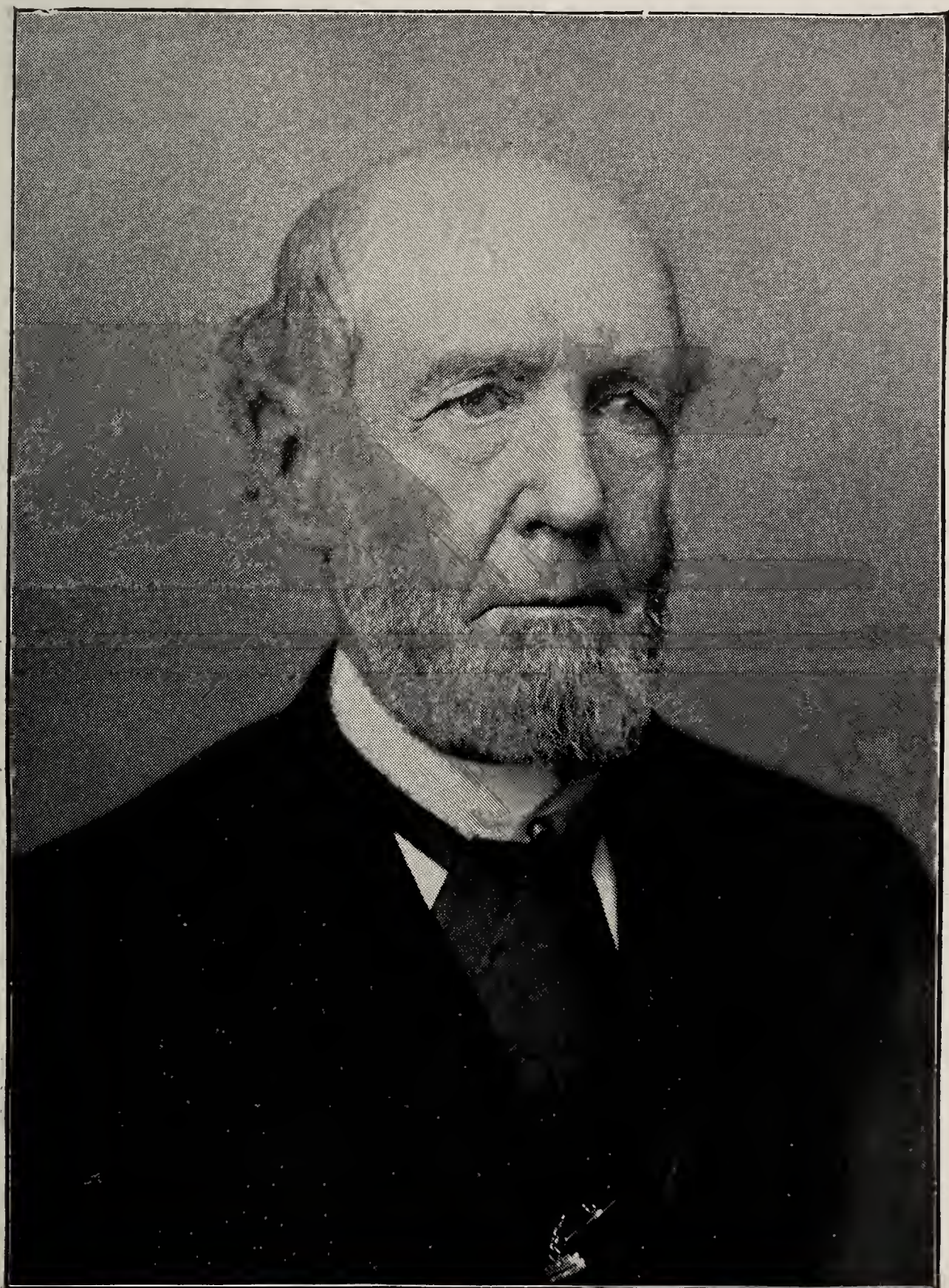
Dr. Percival read an original poem, by invitation, at the meeting of Pioneer Law-Makers in the winter of 1892, upon which occasion he was elected an honorary member of the association. He was a magnificent looking man; tall, finely proportioned, straight as an arrow. In his later years his abundant black hair turned to snowy white, making him a most conspicuous personage in any public assemblage. His poem, read upon the occasion referred to, was so well received that his election as an honorary member was a matter of course. It appears in the volume of proceedings for that year.

HON. THOMAS S. WILSON.

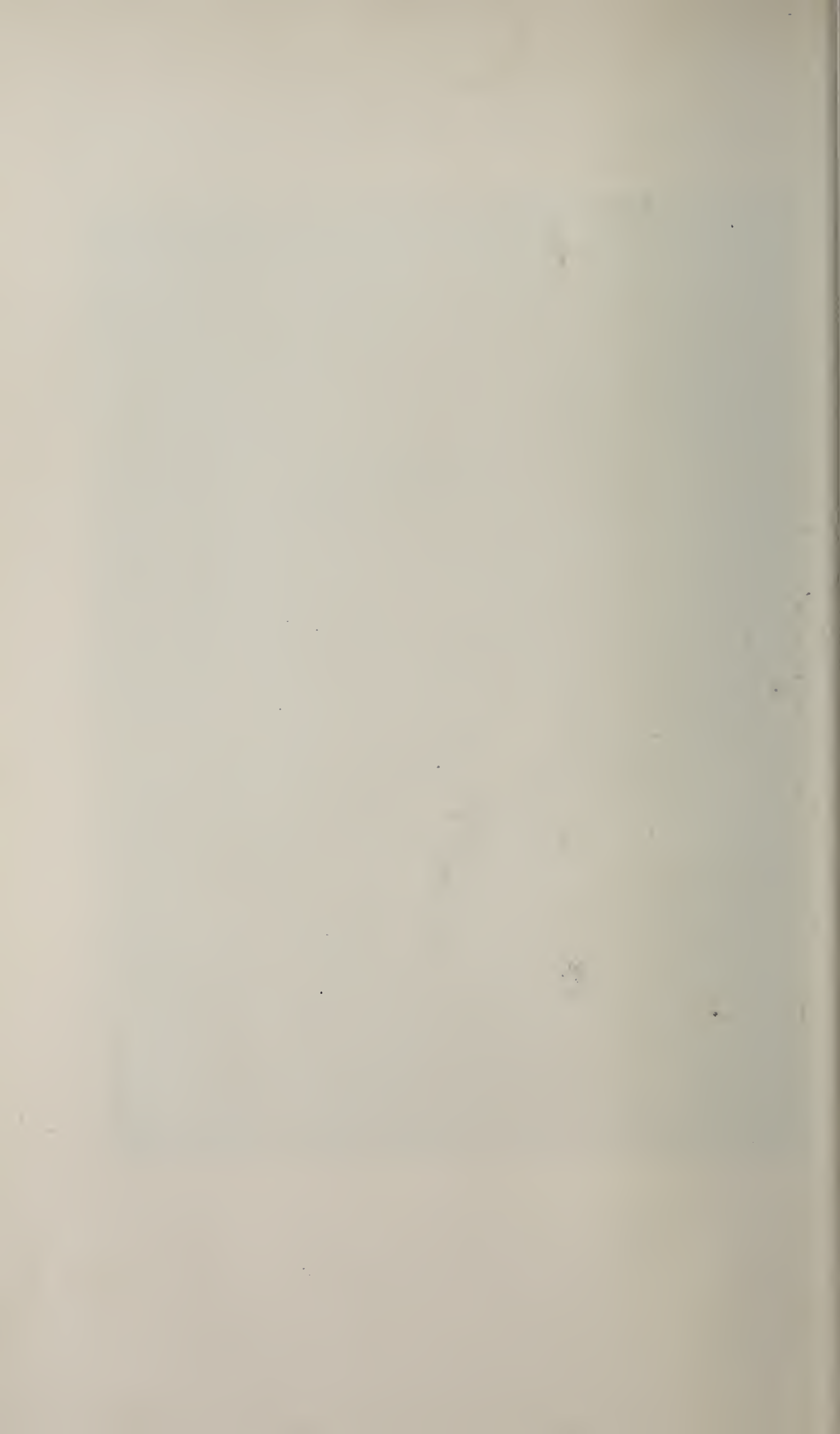
DUBUQUE HERALD.

THOMAS S. WILSON was born at Steubenville, Ohio, on the 13th day of October, 1813, and was consequently just eighty years old at the time of his death. He was descended from a long line of honorable ancestors upon both sides. His great-great-grandfather landed at the spot where Philadelphia now stands with William Penn. His grandfather was in the Revolutionary war, and held a commission signed by George Washington, which is still preserved in the family as one of its valuable heirlooms. His father was an attorney in Philadelphia, but removed to Steubenville when thirty years of age, where he was married to Miss Frances Stokeley. Judge Wilson was the third child. He was educated in the schools at home until fitted for college, when he entered Jefferson College, situated at Havensbury, Pa., where he graduated in the class of 1833 when only nineteen. James G. Blaine afterwards graduated at the same college, and Judge Wilson's mother was a bridesmaid to Mr. Blaine's mother when she was married. Judge Wilson's father died when he was only sixteen, and thereafter he had to depend largely upon his own resources. After graduating he obtained a clerkship in the land office at Steubenville, and at once entered upon the study of the law, having Edwin M. Stanton for a fellow student at the same time. He was admitted to the bar in 1835, and one of his certificates bears the signature of Col. Daniel McCook as clerk of the court, the father of the fighting McCooks.

On the 20th day of September, 1836 he was married to Miss Anna Hoge, the daughter of Col. David Hoge, a prominent citizen of his native town, and the next day the newly married couple took a boat down the Ohio and up the Mississippi. In due time they landed at Prairie du Chien, where his older brother was a lieutenant in the First Infantry of Regulars, commanded by Zachary Taylor, afterwards President of the United States. The newly married couple were warmly welcomed by all the officers at the frontier post. Judge Wilson had it in mind to settle either at Dubuque or at Belmond or Mineral Point, Wis., and he used to tell the story that he tossed a silver dollar with heads for Dubuque and tails for Mineral Point, and heads



Your friend
J. S. Wilson.



came up on top as he wished. Having determined to come here he and his wife were rowed from Prairie du Chien here by two half-breeds whom he had hired for the purpose. The first day they came as far as Cassville, and reached Dubuque on the evening of the second day, the 13th of October, 1836, and here has been his home ever since, a period of nearly fifty-eight years.

In 1838 he was elected president of the board of trustees of the town of Dubuque. In June of that year he was nominated for delegate in congress for the Territory of Iowa, and was on his way to accept the same when he learned that he had just been appointed by President Van Buren as judge of the supreme court of the Territory. The first court ever held in Iowa was presided over by Judge Wilson at Prairie la Porte, where the village of Guttenburg is now situated. This was in November, 1838. He continued as one of the supreme judges of the Territory until Iowa was admitted a State in 1846. When the first legislature met his name was presented for United States Senator, and he came within one vote of securing the nomination, which would have given him the election, as his party was in the majority.

In 1847 he retired from the bench and entered into partnership with Platt Smith and his brother, the late Col. S. D. Wilson, for the practice of law, where he was uniformly successful. One of the cases they had was a celebrated one that excited great interest at the time, for it involved the title to all the land where now stands the city of Dubuque, and affected the home of every man in the city. It was the case of Chouteau vs. Moloney. The case was fought through the supreme court of the United States, where it was finally decided in favor of the rightful settlers and against Chouteau in 1853. In the year 1852 Judge Wilson was again placed upon the bench, this time being elected by the people as district judge in this judicial district. Here he remained until the 1st of January, 1863, when he was again chosen by a large majority of the people, but was defeated by the army vote, where it was claimed some doubtful measures were adopted. Judge Wilson sat upon the bench of Iowa for twenty years in all, beginning when he was a young man of only twenty-five years. He acquired a wide reputation as a judge and his decisions were esteemed as fair and straightforward. It was one of the boasts of his life that no Iowa judge ever had fewer of his decisions reversed. In 1866 and again in 1868 he was a member of the State Legislature, where he held a commanding and influential position and was one of the leading members of the body. For several years he was deputy United States district attorney, and as such had charge of the important litigation before the federal courts. He was also at different times attorney for both the city and county. Of late years he has retired largely from the active practice of the law, although always keeping an office down town.

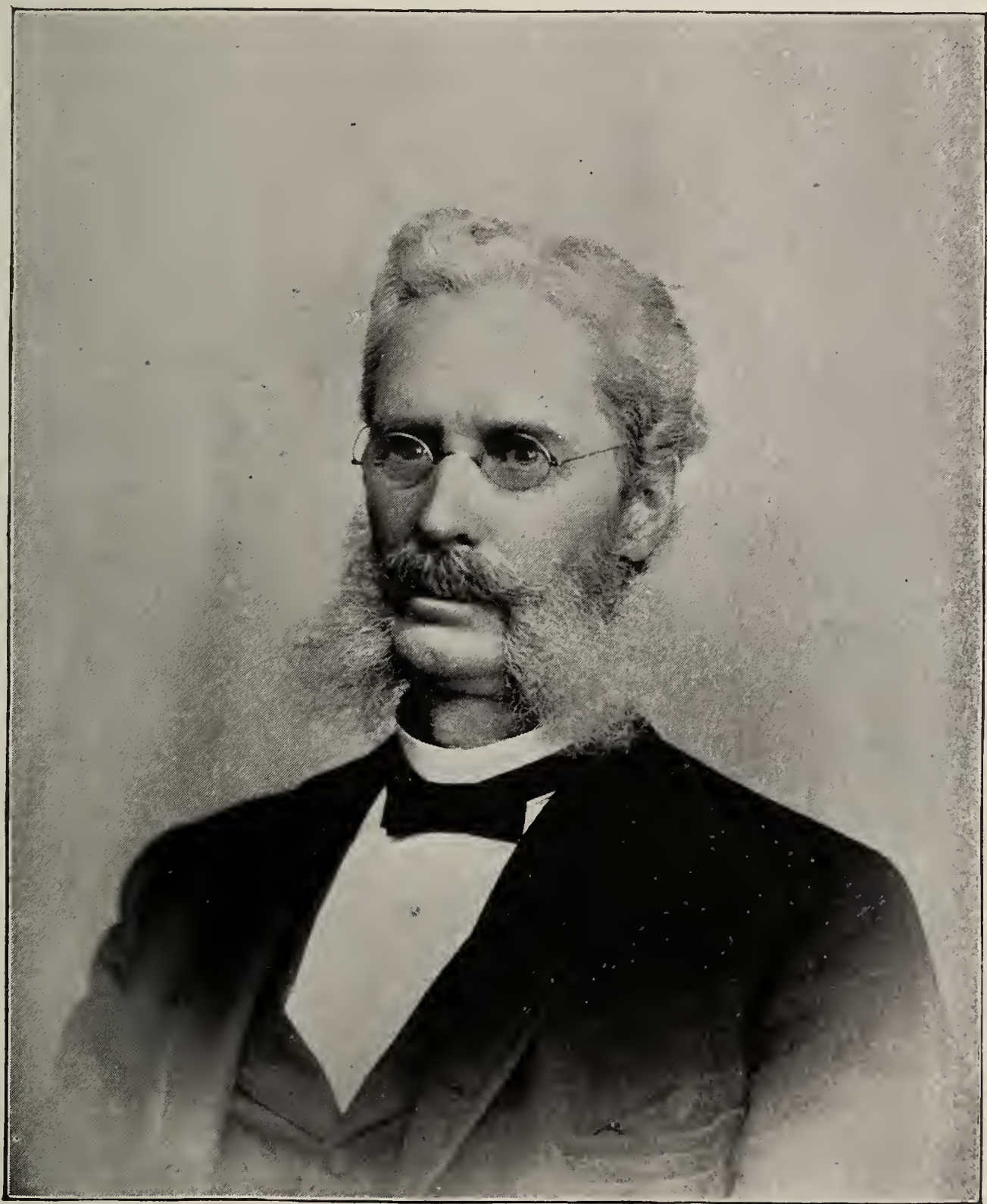
He was always a very active man, both in mind and body. He was a ready and fluent speaker, and was ever in demand on social and other occasions where speaking was to be done. But with his pen he was, if possible, still more ready and agreeable. He was a pleasant and forcible writer, and had he devoted his attention to it would easily have excelled in this field of expression. He was fond of historical writing, and at one time and another has contributed large numbers of papers to the press of Dubuque especially upon topics of local and early history. Judge Wilson has been three times married. He has resided at the corner of White and Sixteenth streets for forty-five years; there he died on the 16th day of May, 1894, at the age of eighty years.

GENERAL ED WRIGHT.

BY CHARLES ALDRICH.

In the autumn of 1855, the people of Cedar county elected to a seat in the Legislature a young farmer, who, during the intervening thirty-nine years has come to be one of the best known men in our State. It was but a few weeks after that body opened its memorable last session in Iowa City, before the people of Iowa began to hear of Ed Wright, and they have known him well and in many useful capacities from that time until now. Few men anywhere have been more continuously in office, and yet there is nothing in his character, or in his daily walk or conversation, to suggest or countenance the idea that he is an office-seeker. There is nothing demonstrative in his action or methods. His ways are very quiet, his manner eminently genial and pleasing, as become a man with a Quaker ancestry. Any idea of management, or acting for effect, is wholly foreign to his nature or to a fair understanding of the man. Moreover, no one is more outspoken or positive in the expression of his opinions. None of his utterances are of a doubtful nature or admit of dubious constructions. But he has, in all these years, been in active politics, and almost continuously in public office. There must be some reason unusual and extraordinary for such a successful career. But to those who know him intimately and well there no is fog or mystery connected with his success. One simple rule has governed his course through life, and that is, to do well and with all his might whatever his hands have found to do. The belief in his integrity, and that he is a perfectly safe and always judicious and reliable man—adequate to the performance of any task that he would undertake or any responsibility he would assume—is universal. The man to whom that kind of a reputation seems to attach as a natural consequence, to be part and parcel of his make-up, and who possesses the equally rare gift of contentedly biding his time, is pretty apt to be in demand, to be wanted. He will stand like a pillar in a community, while even greater men may fall by the wayside, "die and make no sign."

When he took his seat in the legislature the first subject to which he gave his attention was that of parliamentary law and the rules of the House. There were plenty of old, cultured, professional men in that body—men who, like Col. Crockett, could speak eloquently upon any occasion or upon none whatever!—but in a very short time Ed Wright possessed a better knowledge of the rules and precedents governing deliberative bodies than all the old stagers combined. When knotty questions arose during his long legislative career even Speakers would appeal to him to straighten out the kinks. He was listened to as one who spoke by authority, and he generally had his finger upon the section or clause in Cushing's great Manual of Parliamentary Law which rendered his position unassailable. He easily acquired the confidence of everybody—those with whom he was associated intimately as well as the public at large. When he was once chairman of the Committee on Claims, he personally acquainted himself with the merits



Ed Wright

of every account brought against the State. If he recommended or opposed the payment of a claim, that settled its fate at once and finally.

But with all his great but quiet popularity, he is far from being an easy-going person, without opinions or prejudices. He is one who does his own thinking. He has never been any man's man. In fact, he has at times provoked the deepest hostility in influential quarters because he would submit to no domination. His standard of justice and right is his own, and from this mere outside influence never swerves him. And now, at the age of nearly 68, and close upon the time when the infirmities of years, and the exposures of a soldier's life, will necessitate his abstention from all responsibility and care, he is still in the harness, at a post of arduous duty to which he was called because his services were needed, looking as carefully after every detail, and as scrupulously guarding the public interests, as at any time in his long, laborious and most useful career.

Ed Wright—and that is his whole name—not Edwin or Edward or Edgar—was born in Salem, Ohio, June 27, 1827, and is therefore at this writing (September, 1894) fairly entered upon his 68th year. His ancestors were Quakers. He was raised on a farm, acquiring his education at a district school, with a short term at the Atwater Academy, Portage county, Ohio. Upon leaving the academy he taught school winters up to 1849, spending the summers of 1846 and 1847 in acquiring the trade of carpenter and mill-wright. He was married in 1848 to Miss Martha Thompson, a lady of good education and unusual good sense and intelligence, who is remembered with great kindness and respect by hundreds of people in Cedar county and Des Moines.

He resided in Ohio until 1852, when he emigrated to Cedar county, Iowa, where he became a farmer. He was elected a member of the Iowa House of Representatives in 1855-57 and '59.

In 1862 he was commissioned Major of the 24th—"Methodist"—regiment of Iowa Infantry Volunteers, serving until the end of the war. It would afford the writer, who confesses to a high admiration of General Wright, great pleasure to follow his military career somewhat minutely, and narrate many incidents of his service, but the limitations of space will not permit. He participated in the memorable battles of Champion Hills, Port Gibson, Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek. He was severely wounded at Champion Hills and slightly at Cedar Creek. At Winchester his favorite horse, "Old Jack," was killed under him by a solid cannon shot, while he sat upon his back, hurrying to the front with a box of cartridges. When the old horse fell, "the Major" shouldered the box and hurried to the advanced line where the cartridges were badly needed.

He won the reputation of a brave, efficient, vigilant, steady, resourceful officer, and was there, as everywhere, a favorite with those with whom he was associated. Returning from the war with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and the brevet of Brigadier-General, he resumed his avocation as a Cedar county farmer.

In the autumn of 1865, he was again chosen to the Iowa House of Representatives and elected Speaker. He was a very successful presiding officer—the equal of any man who has ever occupied that position in our State—and the superior of most of them. I was that winter Clerk of the House, and I do not recall an instance in which he was disconcerted or "rattled" for a single moment. He was thoroughly informed upon every point of

parliamentary law, and kept the House and himself well in hand. In the autumn of 1866 he was elected Secretary of State, which distinguished position he filled six years. In this, as in every other place to which he has been called, he won the most universal commendation. Retiring to private life in January, 1873, he was chosen Secretary of the Board of Capitol Commissioners, and Assistant-Superintendent of Construction, serving until 1884, when he became Custodian of the new edifice. This is a laborious position, requiring a man of good business habits, who, to be practical and efficient, should come very near being a "Jack-of-all-trades." General Wright discharged its duties so satisfactorily that he was reappointed for each succeeding biennial period, as a matter of course, until the election of Governor Horace Boies. He was then succeeded by a Democrat.

The Executive Council almost immediately after he was relieved from the duties of Custodian of the building, placed him in charge of the improvement of the Capitol grounds, for which the legislature had made an appropriation of \$100,000. He served until the following winter, securing plans for the work and getting it fairly commenced. He then resigned, recommending that the engineer who had been in his employ should be placed in charge of the work. This recommendation was adopted by the Executive Council.

When the Columbian Fair was in progress a chief of the bureau of information was needed—and who so well qualified as General Ed Wright? If he did not have an answer at his tongue's end, he knew where to find it promptly. He was sent for to take this place, remaining till the close of the Fair, and as usual winning "golden opinions" from his large and hourly changing constituency.

In April of the current year he was appointed Member of the Board of Public Works of the city of Des Moines, which place he occupies at this writing.

JUDGE GEORGE G. WRIGHT.

BY MAJ. R. D. KELLOGG.

The name of George G. Wright stands out in bold relief against the background of Iowa's illustrious pioneers, many of whom will go down to posterity as great in the Nation's annals as in the records and traditions of this proud prairie State.

Iowa justly boasts of able statesmen, just judges and fluent orators; of faithful, conscientious law-givers, advanced educators and popular lecturers; of zealous promoters of the agricultural industries of the State; of eloquent platform speakers, charming after dinner talkers, and upright, successful, business men; but the writer hereof knows of no other who possesses *all* these qualifications combined to such a degree as does the subject of this sketch. His great versatility of talent has enabled him to fill the multifarious positions in public life to which he has been called with great credit to himself and the commendation of his friends, which term probably comes, in his case, as near to including all who knew him as is ever the case with a living man.

Little, rock-ribbed Wales, so many of whose children are naturally gifted with oratory and song, was the home of his ancestry. His native State was Indiana, whose early inhabitants had a struggle against miasmatic influences, perhaps not overdrawn in Dickens' portrayal of the experiences of Martin Chuzzlewit and Mark Tapley, and who may have been by those very vicissitudes of hardship, homesickness, and the leaden weight of malarial diseases, remarkably strengthened in their love for one another and the homes they wrung from the wilderness in the face of such difficulties. At any rate, certain it is, that the temperament for *humorous* and *poetic speech*, logic, and impassioned oratory, with intense love of home and family, and a feeling for all social and domestic ties, are highly characteristic of this honored citizen of Iowa. Something of all this appears in his very lineaments, and the State is fortunate in possessing, in the portrait which hangs in the Supreme Court room at the Capitol, a likeness which will convey to coming generations, if they have insight, a glimpse of the personal qualities which endeared this eminent man to his contemporaries. As has been intimated, Judge Wright's parents were of Welch stock. They moved from the Quaker to the Hoosier State in 1817. To them were born nine children, five sons and four daughters. One son died in infancy. The father of the family was snatched away when the subject of this sketch was but five years old, leaving a widow with six children at home dependent upon her and her small estate. It often happens that within such narrow limits the heroic discipline is received, and the heroic heart awakened, which fit one for the highest walks in life. Of that houseful of children the Judge and two sisters remain.

George G. was born at Bloomington, Indiana, on the 24th day of March, 1820. A lameness, resulting from rheumatism, early cut him off from the more active sports of boyhood, but did not cause him to fall into idle moping. He was a diligent student and was graduated from the Indiana State University at the age of nineteen, with high honors.

Each county in Indiana had the privilege of sending two worthy and promising students to the State University, tuition free. These chosen sons were denominated by the other students, charity scholars, and Judge Wright was one of these.

Upon receiving his degree, the future Judge entered upon the study of law in his brother's office in 1839.

The brother, Joseph A. Wright, in whose office young George acquired the beginning of his legal lore and erudition, became a very eminent man in his State, serving in the House of Representatives, in Congress, and as Governor of Indiana, afterwards as Minister to Berlin, United States Senator, and again Minister to Berlin, where he died in 1867.

Our "bright, particular" Wright attained his manhood in this State, having settled in the then Territory of Iowa November 14, 1840.

He was elected prosecuting attorney of Van Buren county in the first year of Statehood, from which post he stepped into the State Senate in 1848. In 1855 he was made Chief Justice of Iowa, and was almost continuously upon that bench till 1870. In January, 1870, he was elected to the United States Senate, taking his seat in March, 1871.

For six years he sat in that branch of our National Council, serving upon the committees on Finance and Judiciary; and was chairman of the Com-

mittee on Claims, and of the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform. He declined re-election in 1876.

Judge Wright was *five* years President of the State Agricultural Society; and served the Van Buren Agricultural Society in the same capacity a like term, after having been its first secretary in 1842. He was one of the organizers of the present law department of the State University in 1865, since which time he has been always more or less connected with it as a lecturer and instructor. It is to be hoped he has been able to indelibly impress his high ideal of moral and professional rectitude upon the young law students who held him in such high and affectionate regard, and with whom he is so popular as a lecturer. He did not, however, restrict his labors in that line entirely to that institution. In the midst of his busy professional and political life, he has responded so far as possible to every demand upon his time and powers. He has delivered lectures upon many topics, in a majority of the counties of the State, before colleges, universities, agricultural associations, in the interests of schools, churches, libraries, and all kinds of benevolent organizations.

In the unstudied utterances thrown off at a moment's call, Judge Wright is particularly happy. On one occasion, hurried to a banquet without time to prepare his regular toilet, his daughter being with him expressed regret to a friend that he must go in his well-worn business suit, thinking they were almost certain to call on him for a toast or a response. Sure enough, he was called up to respond to some sentiment and, as usual, the bursts of laughter his gay sallies of wit evoked, were quenched in the tears his pathos drew forth so readily, and the tears in their turn evaporated in humorous smiles. As they were preparing to return, the daughter, while caressing his arm, was heard to say, "Father, I was not ashamed of the old coat, I was so proud of the man inside of it."

Judge Wright is president of the Iowa Pioneer Law-Makers' Association, now serving his third term.

The recognition of his eminence as a jurist in the nation at large, was shown in his election to the presidency of the American Bar Association, 1887-88.

As a leading young attorney Wright practiced throughout the Des Moines Valley, giving and taking hard blows from 1840 to 1855, and with his "honors thick upon him," returned to the bar in 1877 at his home in Des Moines.

Five years later he accepted the presidency of the Polk County Savings Bank and Security Loan and Trust Company, and continues to occupy his office and chair in both with the utmost regularity.

On the 19th of October, 1843, Geo. G. Wright was married to Hannah M. Dibble, daughter of Judge Thomas Dibble, who was at one time a member of the New York legislature, and in 1846 of the Constitutional Convention of Iowa. This union was blessed with seven children, five sons and two daughters. One son died in his teens; the others reached maturity, married, and all but one are living.

Active as Judge Wright was during all the war period, when Iowa almost stripped herself of able-bodied men to fight her country's battles, it was entirely out of the question for him to go personally to the front, being halt. But he gave a gallant soldier to the Union Army in the person of his

eldest born, who attained his majority just about the end of the civil war, and whose recent sudden death, while it seems so untimely, yet was the earthly close of a life remarkably full and rounded. The golden wedding last autumn of the parents, was the silver wedding of this eldest son and wife. The silver circlet is now prematurely severed, but the golden band of the pioneer wedding yet endures.

Of religious faith, the foundation and crown of a perfectly symmetrical character, the stanzas Judge Wright read at Governor Kirkwood's funeral speak, voicing a recognition of the Omnipotent Hand which touches with love and power the course of national and individual life, weaving all into a wondrous tapestry.

The obstacles which beset Judge Wright's pathway were many. Poor, lame and fatherless, but with indomitable will and perseverance, he attained to the most exalted positions in this great State, and furnished an object lesson for all boys of what can be accomplished in America, unless energy fail.

REGISTER OF PIONEER LAW-MAKERS AT THE FOURTH BIENNIAL REUNION, FEBRUARY 14 AND 15, 1894.

| NAME. | POST OFFICE. | STATE. | No. of years in Iowa. | PLACE OF BIRTH. | DATE OF BIRTH. | CHARACTER OF OFFICIAL SERVICES AND TIME SERVED. |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Geo. G. Wright | Des Moines. | Iowa. | 54 | Indiana..... | March 24, 1820 .. | State Senator (Iowa), 1848; Supreme Court Judge, 15 years; United States Senator, 6 years. |
| S. P. Yeomans | Charles City | Iowa | 57 | New York | January 23, 1822 .. | Member of 5th General Assembly. |
| N. W. Rowell..... | Afton..... | Iowa | 47 | Ohio | June 19, 1836..... | House of 13th General Assembly. |
| R. S. Finkbine. | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 44 | Ohio | July 9, 1828 | House of 10th and 11th General Assemblies and superintendent of erection of new capitol, 14 years. |
| J. S. McCormack. | Knoxville. | Iowa | 36 | Ohio | Dec. 15, 1836..... | Capt. Co. E, 8th Iowa Infantry; Capt. Co. A, 47th Iowa Infantry; member of 10th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th General Assemblies. |
| Samuel McNutt | Muscatine. | Iowa | 40 | Ireland | Nov. 21, 1825..... | Member of 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th General Assemblies; Consul to Maracaibo, Venezuela. |
| E. Lindley..... | Des Moines. | Iowa | 41 | North Carolina | August 28, 1831 .. | Representative from Dallas county, 1864. |
| T. S. Parvin..... | Cedar Rapids | Iowa | 57 | Cedarville, New Jersey..... | January 15, 1817 .. | Private Secretary to Governor Lucas, 1838; Secretary of Council, 1840; Register of State Land office, 1857. |
| F. M. Knoll | Sageville, Dubuque Co. . . | Iowa | 41 | France..... | March 8, 1833..... | House, 9th, 17th and 23d; Senate, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th General Assemblies. |
| John H. Leavitt | Waterloo..... | Iowa .. . | 40 | Massachusetts..... | October 11, 1831 .. | Senate 14th General Assembly. |
| J. H. Powers. | New Hampton. | Iowa .. . | 39 | Vermont | May 22, 1830..... | Senate 8th General Assembly. |
| L. L. Ainsworth | West Union | Iowa | 38 | New York | June 24, 1831 .. | Senate 8th and 9th, House 14th General Assemblies. |
| P. M. Casady. | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 48 | Indiana..... | Dec 3, 1818..... | Second and 3d General Assemblies, Senate. |
| Isaac W. Griffith..... | Des Moines... | Iowa | 56 | Ohio | April 2, 1820 | Second General Assembly, House of Representatives. |
| Reuben Noble..... | McGregor..... | Iowa | 50 | Mississippi..... | April 14, 1821..... | Fifth General Assembly. |
| Samuel Rees..... | Omaha | Neb | 40 | Ohio | Nov. 7, 1817 | Member of 8th, 12th, and 16th General Assemblies from Webster county. |
| Hoyt Sherman..... | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 46 | Ohio | Nov. 1, 1827..... | 11th General Assembly, House. |
| Frank T. Campbell.... | Des Moines. | Iowa | 36 | Ohio | May 8, 1836..... | 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th General Assemblies, Senate. Lieutenant-Governor 1878 to 1882. |

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|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| John Scott | Nevada. | Iowa. | 37 Ohio | April 14, 1824. | 8th and 21st Senates. Lieutenant-Governor 12th General Assembly. |
| P. P. Henderson. | Indianola. | Iowa. | 46 Indiana. | January 3, 1825. | 8th General Assembly, Senate. |
| L. Hollingsworth. | Des Moines. | Iowa. | 40 Ohio | March 5, 1851. | 9th General Assembly, House. |
| Jas. R. Hartsock. | Iowa City. | Iowa. | 56 Pennsylvania. | May 15, 1818. | 7th General Assembly; Sergt. at Arms of Senate. |
| Alonzo Abernethy. | Osage. | Iowa. | 40 Ohio | April 14, 1836. | 11th General Assembly, House. Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1872-1877. |
| R. A. Smith. | Okoboji. | Iowa. | 38 New York | October 13, 1830. | 12th General Assembly, House. |
| James Hilton. | Hilton. | Iowa. | 52 New York | July 9, 1816. | 14th General Assembly, House. |
| G. T. Clark. | Pella. | Iowa. | 61 Tennessee. | March 25, 1823. | 5th, 6th, 15th and 16th General Assemblies. |
| Washington Galland. | Montrose. | Iowa. | 66 Lower Yellow Banks, Ills. | July 20, 1827. | Justice of the Peace, 3 terms; Mayor, 2 terms; County Attorney, 2 terms; House of Representatives, 10th General Assembly, from Lee county, Iowa; Capt. Co. H., 6th Regt., Iowa Vol. Infantry—War of Rebellion—Sergt. Maj. 2d Bat. 3 Missouri mounted Vol.—War with Mexico service 2 years, 1846 and 1847. |
| Lewis W. Ross. | Council Bluffs. | Iowa. | 38 Butler county, Ohio. | October 15, 1827. | Iowa Senate 10th and 11th General Assemblies; Chancellor of Law Department, State University of Iowa, 1880-1887. |
| John Meyer. | Newton. | Iowa. | 37 Pennsylvania. | Feb. 26, 1824. | 1862, Representative; 1866 and 1868 and 1878 and 1880, Senator. |
| B. F. Gue. | Des Moines. | Iowa. | 42 New York | Dec. 25, 1828. | Member of House in 1858-60. Member of Senate in 1862-64 from Scott county. Lieutenant-Governor, 1886, 1868, Webster county. U. S. Pension Agent for Iowa and Nebraska, 1872 to 1880, Polk county. |
| S. A. Moore. | Bloomfield. | Iowa. | 43 Indiana. | Dec. 16, 1821. | Member of Indiana Legislature, 1850-51; County Judge, Davis county, Iowa, 1855-57; Capt. Co. G 2d Iowa Infantry and Lieut.-Col. 45th Infantry. |
| G. L. Godfrey. | Des Moines. | Iowa. | 39 Vermont. | Nov. 4, 1833. | Member of Utah Commission for 11 years. Member of House, 11th General Assembly. |
| Joseph R. Reed. | Council Bluffs. | Iowa. | 37 Ohio. | March 12, 1835. | Senate 11th and 12th General Assemblies. Judge of District and Supreme Court 16 years. |
| Thomas Mitchell. | Mitchellville. | Iowa. | Clermont, N. H. | March 3, 1816. | House of 7th General Assembly; Senator, 1874-6. |
| B. R. Sherman. | Vinton. | Iowa. | 38 Phelps, New York. | May 28, 1836. | Auditor of State, 6 years; Governor, 4 years. |

REGISTER OF PIONEER LAW-MAKERS—CONTINUED.

| NAME. | POST OFFICE. | STATE. | No. of years in Iowa. | PLACE OF BIRTH. | DATE OF BIRTH. | CHARACTER OF OFFICIAL SERVICE AND TIME SERVED. |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| A. C. Fulton.. | Davenport..... | Iowa | 52 | Pennsylvania..... | July 7, 1811..... | County Commissioner; Alderman; Military Engineer; Whig Senator, 5th General Assembly. |
| Jas. N. Miller | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 24 | Pennsylvania..... | August 25, 1846.. | Representative only. |
| Ed Wright... | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 42 | Ohio | June 27, 1827.... | Member of House of Representatives, 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th General Assemblies; Speaker, 11th; Secretary of State, Jan. 1, 1867, to Dec. 31, 1872; Major and Lieutenant-Colonel, 24th Iowa Volunteer Infantry. |
| E. M. Stedman..... | Des Moines. | Iowa | 38 | Ohio | March 2, 1838.... | 14th and 15th General Assemblies, House. |
| C. S. Willson. | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 35 | Franklin, Louisiana..... | | Clerk 10th and 11th General Assemblies, Iowa. Member of House of Representatives 17th General Assembly. |
| J. D. Hunter..... | Webster City..... | Iowa | 37 | Knoxville, Ohio..... | .. | Member of House 12th and 13th General Assemblies. |
| G. W. Bemis..... | Independence..... | Iowa | 40 | Spencer, Massachusetts.. | October 13, 1826. | Member of 8th, 14th and 15th General Assemblies, and State Treasurer four years. |
| Owen Bromley..... | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 37 | Wales | 1825 ... | Member of House 10th, Sergeant-at-Arms of House 18th. |
| W. J. Moir..... | Eldora..... | Iowa | 38 | Scotland..... | October 19, 1824. | In House 9th and 10th General Assemblies. |
| A. A. Ramsey.. | Albia.... | Iowa | 41 | Fleming Co., Kentucky... | August 13, 1821.. | Legislature 12th General Assembly. |
| I. W. Keller..... | Mt. Ayr... .. | Iowa | 39 | Noble County, Ohio..... | Sept. 29, 1828.... | Senate 12th and 14th, 18th and 19th General Assemblies. |
| W. C. Willson..... | Webster City..... | Iowa | 54 | | | House of 6th General Assembly. |
| Warren S. Dungan.. | Lucas County | Iowa | 36 | Frankfort Springs, Pa .. | Sept. 12, 1822.... | Senator 9th General Assembly. House 18th and 19th; Senator in 22d and 23rd and Lieutenant-Governor 25th General Assembly. |
| Isaac Brandt..... | Des Moines..... | Iowa | 38 | Lancaster, Ohio..... | April 7, 1827.... | Assistant Treasurer of State six years. Member of 15th General Assembly. |
| O. C. Cole..... | Des Moines | Iowa | 37 | Oxford, New York..... | June 4, 1824..... | Judge of Supreme Court, 1864-76. |
| Charles Aldrich..... | Des Moines and Boone.. | Iowa | 37 | Ellington, New York | October 2, 1828.. | Chief Clerk Iowa House of Representatives, 1860-62-66-70. Member of House, 1882. |

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